



Annual Report

2024





Contents

A United Voice For Tasmanian Farmers

President's Report	4
CEO's Reflections	5
Your Board of Directors	6
Three Year Strategic Plan	7
Your Staff	8
2024 - Highlights	9
— Advocacy At Work In 2024	10
Agriculture Sustainability Committee Report	11
Dairy Council Report	13
Wool Council Report	14
Wildlife Policing and Firearms Committee Report	15
Water Committee Report	16
Red Meat Council Report	17
Vegetable Council Report	18
Project Summary 2024	19
Director Attendance	20
Financials	21

TasFarmers

Ellen Freeman

Low Emissions Livestock Project

The aims of this project are to:

- Demonstrate the application of sea feed supplements.
- Build industry confidence and support Tasmanian farmers through the successful adoption of low emissions feed technologies.
- Deliver evidence and data on improved low emissions feed technologies to Tasmanian farms through product quality.



President's Report

This year has been challenging for our members and the broader farming community. We swiftly entered into a dry season with little lead time and faced low commodity prices while also addressing freight and shipping service issues.

Throughout 2024, these challenges remained the top concerns, with the Spirit ferry debacle further exposing weaknesses in the state's supply chain.

Despite the challenges, TasFarmers hit its stride in advocacy, achieving tangible outcomes throughout the year for its members. On the federal biosecurity levy, we actively pushed back against writing to the minister and going to Canberra to prosecute our case against the policy.

The proposed legislation would have unfairly shifted the cost and risks of biosecurity measures to farmers instead of importers, who we have always argued should bear the responsibility as the risk takers. News that the Albanese Government had decided to scrap the biosecurity tax was a welcome relief for the sector. At the state level, we worked to halt fire levy reforms, which under one model, could have increased farmers' levy payments by as much as 1,000 per cent.

The proposed and resulting financial burden was not fair or sustainable, and impossible for us to support given the rise in supply chain cost and the threat of an extended dry season. Our advocacy results are of real economic value to our farmers and are only made possible by your member contributions, without your support, we could not prosecute the case against such policies.

Our communications highlight the wins achieved on your behalf, ensuring non-members also see the value of our work. When you're chatting with your neighbours at the next BBQ, the message is clear: so much has been accomplished that membership is well worth it for the benefit of all.

The transformation of the organisation led by Nathan since he started with us a little more than a year ago has been significant. Our brand is strong, modern and vibrant, Nathan

has brought a laser focus to our strategic goals, with significant work now underway to simplify and streamline the policy and committees which will ensure members can be involved, represented and share their ideas.

On behalf of the members, the TasFarmers team worked on many other issues, including negotiating strategic benefits payment for landowners impacted by the NW transmission line, and we are the leading advocacy body when it comes to the conversation for council rate reform in Tasmania.

Our efforts contributed to the scrapping of proposed taxation changes on primary production assets in self-managed superannuation funds. We also continue to advocate for sensible firearm reforms, improved wildlife management, and practical solutions to red and green tape challenges that threaten farm profitability. Workforce needs, industrial relations laws, and streamlined compliance requirements remain key priorities.

Across the sector and supply chain, we continue breaking down the silos, and we're engaging with our farmers, whether it be at regional events or through our Food and Fibre network or via our social media and print communications, which continue to collaborate and strongly engage.

Our collaborative approach extends nationally, with the launch of the Farm Access Code alongside the Victorian Farmers Federation. The National Farmers Federation's adoption of the code at its AGM demonstrates how our efforts are uniting the sector, ensuring farmers across Australia are aligned rather than fragmented and it's all about the farmers at the end of the day.

In conclusion, we continue to put members first as TasFarmers works strategically for the betterment of the entire sector. On behalf of myself, the board and staff, we thank you for your continued support and membership.



Ian Sauer
TasFarmers President

CEO's Reflections

Twelve months ago, I accepted a new challenge and joined TasFarmers as their new CEO, and a little over 12 months on it is useful to reflect on the organisation's transformation during that time. It has certainly been a significant year of change which started with our relocation to the rural community of Longford, and into the renovated Tabernacle Building.

This move coincided with the organisations rebranding from The Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association to the more modern TasFarmers brand. The organisation has a long history as the peak advocacy body for primary production in Tasmania, but with the move and the new brand created an opportunity to refocus our strategic direction and focus on delivering for members.

At the heart of our strategy is our council and committee structure. As part of our "Advocate" strategic pillar, we have invested a significant amount of time this year reviewing these structures – with an aim of simplifying and streamlining the flow of policy from committees to councils and finally to the board. The full rollout of this structure will be completed in 2025, and with it we will be looking for new ideas and experiences to help drive our policy agenda for the benefit of members. We encourage every member to be involved or represented.

A further focus of our strategic plan has been to "Engage" our membership. During the year we have completed a body of work to define our membership value proposition, and this will be implemented in full during 2025. During the year we have updated the membership details of well over 600 members, and this data will help ensure we deliver on the needs of membership. Over the year we have held four regional events, to connect with members, provide education and grow engagement. This focus will grow into the new year.

The "Collaborate" pillar of our Strategic Plan has focused on the formation of partnerships to grow value for the industry. During the year we have worked with Rural Youth to appoint two "Rising Stars". These individuals have contributed to board meetings, committees and attended Ministerial Meetings to build their capability but also ensure the TasFarmers

are aware of the issues and challenges facing young people in the sector.

We have also forged stronger partnerships with government and non-government organisations to grow support to the sector. We have also contributed to the development of the Agricultural Skills Compact which will drive education outcomes for the sector. Finally, our "Facilitate" pillar has grown the number of projects we have operated for the benefit of the industry significantly.

In addition to our existing Biosecurity and Living Next Door to A Farmer Program, in 2025 we will also be appointing two new drought coordinators (one in Longford and one on King Island) as well as three team members to conduct the Low Emission Livestock Trial over the next three years. This project, funded by the Tasmanian Government in partnership with SeaForrest and Fonterra will provide members to make informed decisions about low emission feed options for their farms.

As an organisation we end the year in a strong, future focused position with a single focus on creating a sustainable future for you, Tasmanian Farmers.



Nathan Calman
TasFarmers CEO

Your Board of Directors



President

Ian Sauer



Vice President
Nathan Cox

Director & Company Secretary
Corey Spencer



Director
Paul Arnold

Director
Geoff Cox



Director
Richard Hallet
(appointed 9/2024)

Director
Rebecca Downie



Director
James McShane
(ceased 4/2024)

Director
Andrew Beven
(ceased 11/2024)



Director
Kate Beven
(appointed 1/2025)

Independent Director
Phillip Hogget
(ceased 11/2024)



Independent Director
Dr Elizabeth Lord



Three-Year Strategic Plan F25 - 27

<p>ADVOCATE</p> <p>To be the voice of Tasmanian agricultural producers that delivers change to benefit its members through policy</p>	<p>ENGAGE</p> <p>An organisation valued and promoted by its membership</p>	<p>COLLABORATE</p> <p>Working with strategic partners to grow the industry and educational pathway outcomes</p>	<p>FACILITATE</p> <p>Create opportunities for industry knowledge development and sharing</p>
KEY INITIATIVES			
<p>Federal Policy Platform Key issues as per State Policy below KPI - Election scorecard delivered</p> <p>State Policy Platform Key issues: Rates, Forestry, Energy, Cost to farm, Labour force KPI - Advocacy plan executed for priority issues</p> <p>Policy Manual KPI - 10x Policies developed per quarter</p> <p>Council & Committee (C&C) Reform KPI - Quarterly milestones achieved</p>	<p>Membership Platform Development KPI - Delivered in full, on time, and within budget by July 2025</p> <p>Continuous Membership Engagement KPI - Net Engagement Score >40%</p> <p>Annual FarmX Conference & Sponsorship KPI - Budget targets met and positive attendee feedback collected by end of Q3</p>	<p>Engagement Beyond the Sector KPI - Quarterly Op-Ed published (Examiner/Mercury)</p> <p>Education & Mentorship KPI - Quarterly meetings with DECYP mentorship program; program established by end of Q2 KPI - Develop a "fact base" for industry supporting science based arguments</p> <p>Strengthening Industry Partnerships KPI - Establish and build three strategic partnerships</p>	<p>Membership Forums KPI - Quarterly Membership Forum to foster dialogue and collaboration</p> <p>Media & Audience Engagement KPI - Social & Media Outreach Growth metrics targets achieved</p> <p>Sustainable Project Funding KPI - Project Funding Diversification - Long-term sustainability strategy</p>
<p>STRENGTHEN AND BUILD</p> <p>Strengthen internal capability and ensure financial sustainability</p>	<p>WORKPLACE OF CHOICE</p> <p>KPI - Engaged people KPI - Best practice systems</p>	<p>STRENGTHENED GOVERNANCE</p> <p>KPI - External Board Review Complete KPI - Director Development Plans delivered</p>	<p>FUTURE FUNDING STRATEGY</p> <p>KPI - Diversified revenue streams and strong reserves to ensure long-term viability</p>
TASFARMERS CORE VALUES			
<p>Safety First Commitment to health, safety, & environmental responsibility</p>	<p>Respect for People Mutual respect among teammates & members</p>	<p>Team Work Individual success stems from collective efforts</p>	<p>Integrity Transparent, trustworthy, & consistent in all business dealings</p>

Your Staff



Chief Executive Officer

Nathan Calman



Chief Operating Officer
Neil Grose



Business Manager
Simone Hackett



Manager Communications Engagement
Grayson Genders



Policy Officer
Jonathan Jones



Jessica O'Brien
Events and Partnership Coordinator



Low Emissions Livestock Project
Ellen Freeman



Policy Officer
Jasmine Chapple



Low Emissions Livestock Project Officer
Bronte Miller



Enhanced Biosecurity Project Officer
Mark Yole



Drought Resilience Coordinator King Island
Tas Loane

2024 - Highlights

MEMBERSHIP | ENGAGEMENT | ADVOCACY

Membership Subscriptions



^12%*

Budget Submission



\$4.7 Million*

Corporate Sponsors



^25%*

Policy Submissions



We played a key role in influencing and shaping policy.

8*



Page reach



37.1k*



Website page views



62,104*

Followers



4.8k*



Video content
Minutes viewed










7.6k*

*Previous Year 2023

Advocacy at Work in 2024

- **Irrigation investment & management** – Ensured continued water security for farmers on the South East.
- **Fire levy opposition** – Prevented levy increases of up to 1,000%.
- **Animal welfare reforms** – Advocated for practical, farmer-focused policies.
- **Electronic Identification Devices (EID)** – Secured funding support for compulsory implementation.
- **Strategic benefit payments** – Negotiating compensation for landowners affected by the NW transmission line.
- **Tractor education in schools** – Pushed for practical agricultural learning in school curriculums.
- **Sensible firearm reforms & wildlife management** – Advocated for a balanced and fair approach.
- **Council rate reform** – Led efforts to make local government rates fairer for farmers.
- **Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme review** – Secured a senate review to address supply chain issues.
- **Superannuation tax changes** – Successfully opposed taxation on primary production assets.
- **Federal biosecurity levy** – Led a strong campaign against unfair taxation, resulting in the Albanese Government scrapping the proposal.
- **Farm Access Code** – Developed in partnership with the Victorian Farmers Federation, now adopted by NFF a national standard.
- **Workforce needs & industrial relations** – Addressing labour shortages and fair workplace policies.
- **Streamlining compliance & red/green tape** – Continue to seek a reduction in regulatory burdens that impact farm profitability.
- **Engagement & visibility** – Strengthening connections with farmers through events, social media, and the Food and Fibre Network.

 <p>Fastnews e-newsletters</p> <p>24 24*</p>	 <p>Member Alert</p> <p>^42 33*</p>	 <p>Editorials</p> <p>^45 *42</p>	 <p>Media Releases</p> <p>^49 37*</p>
 <p>Tracked Media Mentions</p> <p>^776 171*</p>	 <p>Advertising Value Equivalency</p> <p>\$4.7M (The cost to purchase the equivalent of what we do in PR)</p>		 <p>Total Media Reach Potential</p> <p>451M</p>

*Previous Year 2023

Agriculture Sustainability Committee Report

Committee Members:

- Marcus James (Chair)
- Will Bignell
- Iain Bruce
- Amelia Cameron
- Stephen Creese
- Ian Dickenson
- Iain Field
- Stafford Heres-Ives
- Rob McCreath
- George Mills
- Roderic O'Connor
- Ian Sauer
- Leanne Sherriff
- Jim Wilson

2024 was another successful year for the Agriculture Sustainability Committee. Through meetings, participation in key consultation sessions, and written submissions, the committee worked collaboratively to advocate for the interests and needs of Tasmanian farmers across the broader environmental space, highlighting the vital role Tasmanian farms play in sustainable agriculture and environmental stewardship.

Committee meetings provided valuable opportunities to engage with key external stakeholders, including government and industry representatives, helping to shape a positive regulatory environment that supports and recognises sustainable practices while ensuring farmers have access to the resources and support needed to navigate evolving challenges and opportunities in the sector.

Key focus areas for the committee included:

- The ongoing reform of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- Review of Tasmania's Threatened Species Strategy.
- Promotion of the Sustainable Agriculture Recognition Systems

The ongoing EPBC Act reform, which includes proposed changes to Australia's national environmental law, was a key work area for the committee in 2024. Through both written submissions and correspondence with government TasFarmers have continued to express concern over the proposed changes to the EPBC Act and the potential impacts on farmers.

The committee also had input into the review of Tasmania's Threatened Species Strategy through which we advocated for flexibility in threatened species management for farmers, recognising the significance of existing conservation activities and their contribution to threatened species management and science-based decision making. TasFarmers also nominated a representative from the committee to sit on the Community Review Committee (Threatened Species).

The committee continued to advocate for further recognition of Tasmanian farmers' sustainable practices and ecological services and to support them in navigating new and emerging reporting requirements, including those related to carbon accounting. This included advocating for the implementation of the Sustainable Agriculture Recognition Systems Project through a suitable funding scheme.

By benchmarking the condition of their natural capital and assessing the social and economic sustainability of their enterprises, the project would help build farmers' capacity to meet upcoming sustainability reporting requirements and adapt to evolving market and regulatory expectations.



Dairy Council Report

Council Members:

- Geoff Cox (Chair)
- Andrew Aldridge
- Ryan Ashby
- Nigel Brock
- Michele Lawrence
- Andrew Lester
- Andrew Wright
- Matt Ryan

2024 was a year of significant challenges and accomplishments for the Dairy Council. From navigating regulatory changes to advocating for funding, the Council focused on safeguarding the interests of Tasmanian dairy producers while addressing pressing issues.

One of the most critical challenges was ensuring the continuation of surplus calf processing at Tasmanian Quality Meats (TQM) following the suspension of its export license.

The Council played an active role in the ongoing national Dairy Code Review, ensuring Tasmanian producers were well represented on the Review Panel. The Council supported farmers during extreme weather events in August and September, chairing the Regional Response Group to coordinate disaster relief. Privacy and safety concerns surrounding drone use on farms were another priority area, as was advocating for funding and support following the removal of the exemption for eID tags on surplus calves sent for slaughter.

Despite these challenges, the Council achieved several key outcomes for its members. Funding was secured to allow TQM to continue surplus calf processing, and a \$4.50 rebate for eID tags in surplus calves was negotiated for 2025. Advocacy efforts within Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) helped address internal issues and emphasised the importance of maintaining strong relationships with processors. Furthermore, the Council successfully provided recommendations to government on new Traceability Regulations, which were accepted and implemented.

The Surplus Calves Roadmap Project was a major initiative in 2024, laying out a regional plan for managing surplus calves in Tasmania through to 2035. This project represents a significant step toward sustainable long-term management for the sector.

The Council also engaged extensively with stakeholders, including DairyTas, the Tasmanian Dairy Industry Authority, and Dairy Australia. Collaborative efforts with these groups ensured Tasmanian producers had a voice in critical discussions, such as the Dairy Code Review and the development of new strategic plans. Representatives from the Dairy Council also participated in all three Policy Advisory Groups of ADF, continuing to address challenges within the national advocacy structure.

Looking forward to 2025, the Council is focused on securing funding to implement the recommendations of the Surplus Calves Roadmap Project, developing policy on issues such as drones and virtual fencing, and strengthening relationships with key industry stakeholders.

Advocacy highlights:

- Secured funding for upgrades at TQM to safeguard surplus calf processing.
- Launched the Tasmanian Dairy Calfways Project, providing a regional plan for surplus calf management until 2035.
- Led disaster response efforts during the August/September extreme weather events, supporting affected farmers.
- Achieved a \$4.50 rebate on eID tags for surplus calves sent to TQM for processing, providing financial relief for producers.



Wool Council Report

Council Members:

- Charles Downie (Chair)
- Andrew Johnston
- Anthony Archer
- Brenton Heazlewood
- Marcus McShane
- Tim McShane

The Wool Council faced a challenging year, with several issues requiring significant advocacy and support for Tasmanian wool producers.

Workers' compensation remained a persistent issue as shearers demanded premium coverage, driving costs higher for producers. The rollout of electronic identification (eID) requirements for sheep and goats, effective from January 1, 2025, presented significant adjustments for the industry. Additionally, the ban on live sheep exports in Western Australia raised alarm across the sector, as it heightened concerns about future industry restrictions. Low mutton prices compounded financial pressures for wool growers, worsened by the severely dry conditions during the year.

Tasmanian producers continued to face biosecurity threats, with footrot remaining a prevalent issue. Despite the absence of a vaccine, the Wool Council strongly lobbied government for funding and support to develop one.

Activist attention on mulesing practices placed further pressure on the sector; however, the Council maintained its policy that mulesing must only occur with pain relief to ensure positive animal welfare outcomes. The annual Australian Wool Innovation WoolPoll and associated discussions required consistent Council advocacy to ensure producer awareness and engagement.

Despite these challenges, the Council achieved key wins in 2024. Securing funding for the eID rollout was a major success, reducing the burden on Tasmanian wool producers. The Council also contributed significantly to the development of Biosecurity Tasmania's Livestock Traceability Regulations, providing advice and support to ensure the regulations aligned with industry needs.

Stakeholder engagement remained a priority, with representation on the Australian Wool Forecasting Committee and collaborative work with WoolProducers Australia and Sheep Producers Australia on critical issues like eID harmonisation and the live sheep export ban.

Advocacy highlights:

- Secured funding for the national eID rollout and provided support to Tasmanian wool producers.
- Lobbied stakeholders and government to advance the development of a footrot vaccine.
- Advocated for the benefits of mulesing with pain relief, emphasising positive animal welfare outcomes.
- Successfully opposed the Biosecurity Protection Levy, preventing additional financial strain on producers.
- Provided high-level advice on Biosecurity Tasmania's draft Livestock Traceability Regulations.

Wildlife Policing and Firearms Committee Report

Committee Members:

- Alastair Cameron (Chair)
- Nigel Brock
- Jim Cooper
- Nathan Cox
- Brett Ford
- Sandy Gibson
- George Mills

2024 was a productive year for the Wildlife, Policing and Firearms Committee. The committee continued their dedicated advocacy work across a range of policy areas including firearm legislation, wildlife control and policing issues.

Through regular meetings and ongoing discussions with external stakeholders the committee was able to achieve positive results on several issues.

A strong focus of the committee in 2024 was constructive engagement on issues pertaining to the use of and licencing of firearms.

The committee prepared formal submissions for TasFarmers on:

- Firearms Licence Training Requirements. The committee raised concerns including clarifying 'demonstration of knowledge' in relation to the safe use of category A and B firearms, allowing firearm licences to be recognised and/or transferred between states and territories and appointing additional training providers.
- Firearms Licence Application Form. The committee raised concerns including the inclusion of lever-action shotguns in relevant categories and the inclusion of mental and physical health related questions and their potential impacts of people seeking support.
- Proposed Amendments to the Firearms Act 1996 Relating to Antique Firearms. The committee continued to work on this important issue by providing feedback including not needing to register antique firearms.
- The need to amend the Firearms Act 1996 to clarify the issue of Firearms Trafficking.

- The need to amend the Firearms Act 1996 to formally recognise licenced interstate and international recreational hunters.

The committee also provided feedback on the Police Offences Amendment Bill 2024 where it was recommended to increase the penalty guidelines for convictions of armed trespass on land to the same level as the penalty for a dwelling, include the killing or wounding of wildlife in addition to an animal being the property of another person and increase the penalty guidelines for convictions of theft in rural areas.

The committee also worked hard to increase their collaboration with external stakeholders including the Department of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) and their associated divisions including Game Services Tasmania and the Parks and Wildlife Service. The committee is continuing to work with NRE in developing the wildlife damage control plan.

The committee focused their advocacy efforts on a broad audience by providing briefings to the Minister and Shadow Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management, the Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council and Independent members. These briefings focused on providing an overview and examples of wildlife management concerns, potential amendments to legislation that would address anomalies in the Firearms Act, assist farmers and reduce rural crime.

Water Committee Report

Committee Members:

- Malcolm Green (Chair)
- Andrew Aldridge
- Michael Badcock
- Nick Eyles
- George Mills
- George Shea

2024 was a productive year for the Water Committee with a major focus on ensuring the continued availability of high-surety reliable water to all farmers, predominantly through irrigation schemes. Committee members were actively involved in advocating for and progressing issues that impact water use on farms.

Throughout the year, the committee met regularly with key Tasmanian water management bodies including Tasmanian Irrigation, Hydro Tasmania and the Department of Natural Resources and Environment.

These management bodies are key external stakeholders with which the committee has prioritised building a respectful and collaborative relationship. A strong relationship with these bodies provides a foundation for the committee to achieve successful outcomes in the advocacy space.

Key focus areas for the Water Committee in 2024 included:

- Lobbying the Federal Government to commit their \$150.6M funding share of the Greater South East Irrigation Scheme. As well as leading a media campaign aimed at securing Federal Government funding for the scheme, TasFarmers addressed a letter to the Federal Treasurer following the omission of funding for the Greater South East Irrigation Scheme in the May 2024 Federal Budget. Federal funding was eventually confirmed in November 2024.
- Advocating for the extension of irrigation season dates during the unseasonably dry conditions experienced throughout 2024.
- Community Management of Irrigation Schemes. The committee was actively involved in consultation and the ongoing development of Tasmanian Irrigation's application process for community management of irrigation schemes.
- Advocating on behalf of Winnaleah irrigators following Tasmanian Irrigation's decision not to renew their operations and maintenance agreement with Winnaleah Irrigation Scheme Limited (WISL).
- Assisting and advocating for landholders on the alignment of the recently commenced Northern Midlands Irrigation Scheme with land access arrangements.
- Extensive involvement in the development of a new National Water Agreement including providing detailed feedback on the draft principles.
- Successful application for funding from the Strategic Industry Partnership Program to develop a Voluntary Code of Practice for Nutrient Management in 2025.

Red Meat Council Report

Council Members:

- George Shea (Chair)
- Ella Anderson (Deputy Chair)
- Roger Clemons
- Rupert Gregg
- Kate Klug
- Phillip Richards
- Paul Saward
- Tim Schmidt
- Leanne Sherrif
- Brian Stewart

The Red Meat Council faced a challenging year as Tasmania's abattoirs came under scrutiny for animal cruelty, causing widespread concerns within the industry. These events significantly impacted public perception and required substantial advocacy to restore trust.

The dry season further compounded challenges, leading to processing bottlenecks as an influx of stock drove down prices, negatively affecting farmers' incomes and disrupting on-farm practices.

King Island suffered severe drought conditions, necessitating industry collaboration to transport stock off the island and ensure feed supplies reached affected areas. Water availability on Flinders Island also became a pressing issue, highlighting the need for infrastructure to mitigate the effects of dry conditions.

Electronic identification (eID) tags remained a focal point throughout the year, with the January 2025 rollout deadline prompting significant adaptations by producers.

The Council worked diligently to ease the transition, ensuring producers had the resources and knowledge needed to comply with these new requirements.

Meanwhile, the Federal Government's decision to end live sheep export in Western Australia sparked national protests, adding to the year's advocacy priorities.

The Biosecurity Protection Levy was another area of focus, as the Council strongly opposed its unfair cost burden on producers.

Despite these challenges, the Council achieved significant wins in 2024. Advocacy efforts secured funding for the eID rollout and successfully negotiated a staggered implementation approach, reducing pressure on producers.

The Council also played a pivotal role in the Tasmanian Livestock Processing Taskforce, which developed new processing guidelines for meat processors in the state.

Funding was secured to commence the Tasmanian Red Meat Industry Strategic Plan for 2025–2030 which concludes soon, and TasFarmers in collaboration with Sprout, will run an Animal Welfare SIPP project to enhance producer education on animal welfare.

Working with stakeholders was a cornerstone of the Council's work. Partnerships with the Animal Welfare Advisory Council (AWAC) and Biosecurity Tasmania enabled the Council to address pressing animal welfare concerns and amend draft Livestock Traceability Regulations.

Representation through Cattle Australia, Sheep Producers Australia, and Tas Women in Ag further strengthened the Council's advocacy efforts, ensuring Tasmania's red meat producers had a voice in national policy discussions.

Advocacy Highlights:

- Secured funding and support for TQM to maintain operations when their export licence was suspended.
- Obtained funding for eID tags and infrastructure, facilitating the industry's transition to electronic traceability systems.
- Advocated for the welfare and handling of animals through the Tasmanian Livestock Processing Taskforce.
- Made submissions on the Australian Sustainability Framework to address language and policy changes affecting Tasmanian producers.
- Ensured priority processing for livestock during the dry season to prevent adverse animal welfare outcomes.

Project Summary 2024

Project Summary 2024

2024 has been a big year for the projects department. Neil Grose was appointed to projects manager early in the year and has helped to grow the projects department with TasFarmers. We were successful in securing the Low Emissions Livestock Project grant for the next three years. This project is a great opportunity for TasFarmers to help improve the carbon footprint in the agriculture industry in our beautiful state. The Enhanced Biosecurity project continues to be a major project and has been renewed for a further three years while the Living Next Door to a Farmer project continues to help farmers and the community promote positive neighbourly relationships.

Enhanced Biosecurity project:

2024 has seen a change to the Enhanced Biosecurity Project with the appointment of Mark Yole to the role. Mark has embraced the role and continued to deliver positive results for the project.

This year we played an integral role when it was discovered that Mosaic Pea Seed virus was present in the state. We were able to facilitate negotiations between producers and Biosecurity Tasmania to deliver a positive outcome for all parties. We were invited to be a member of the Tasmanian Varroa Mite taskforce and continued as a member of the Fruit Fly taskforce.

A key part of the project is increasing awareness of Tasmania's Biosecurity requirements, general biosecurity duty and tools available to safeguard Tasmania against threats like weeds, pests, and animal diseases. Our website and social media platforms as well as event attendances and in-person farm visits have helped to achieve this goal. We were proactive in getting the message out about the risk of Avian Influenza and take immense pride that it has not made its way to our shores. We continued to offer face to face advice for any questions or queries that farmers may have related to biosecurity.

Living Next Door to a Farmer:

With the role of project officer being vacant for a period this year, the team did a fantastic job of keeping this project on track throughout. This project helps to accommodate any issues that a farmer or the public may have with their neighbour's. Some of the roles we played were consulting with local councils, Written and verbal communications with ministerial offices, advice and information gathering and sourcing answers around legislation. While we are unable to give legal advice, we do our

absolute best to help our farmers and the community when an issue arises. In 2025 Mark Yole will also be taking on the project officer role to continue this work until the completion of the project in June 2025.

Low Emissions Livestock Project:

We are extremely excited about this project that commenced late in 2024. The project aims to demonstrate the practicality of implementing a natural low emission livestock feed supplement into farming operations across dairy and beef sectors. We have collaborated with SeaForest, a Tasmanian based company, in delivering their low emissions feed additive products into practice. SeaForest farm a native red seaweed, *Asparagopsis*, which has natural methane reducing properties for ruminant species.

The seaweed forms the crucial element in the development of the low emissions feed supplements. Animal health and productivity will be monitored and measured throughout the feeding trials, to ensure we can report to industry the results of the feeding trials. Ellen Freeman was appointed project lead and has done a fantastic job in setting up this project in the back half of the year so that the feeding trials can begin early in 2025.

As a part of the project Bronte Miller has joined the team as a project officer. Low emissions feed supplements are a new concept and product, and this trial will be integral in showing the results to the industry and improving the understanding of feed supplements in reducing methane emissions from cows and the implementation of them over large-scale farming operations.

Fonterra has shown great support for this project, and we are thrilled to be working alongside such a huge and successful company. We are excited about what this project can accomplish for this industry.

TasFarmers is committed to the Tasmanian agricultural industry and strives for absolute excellence, we believe that these projects play a key role in continuing to protect and grow our industry.

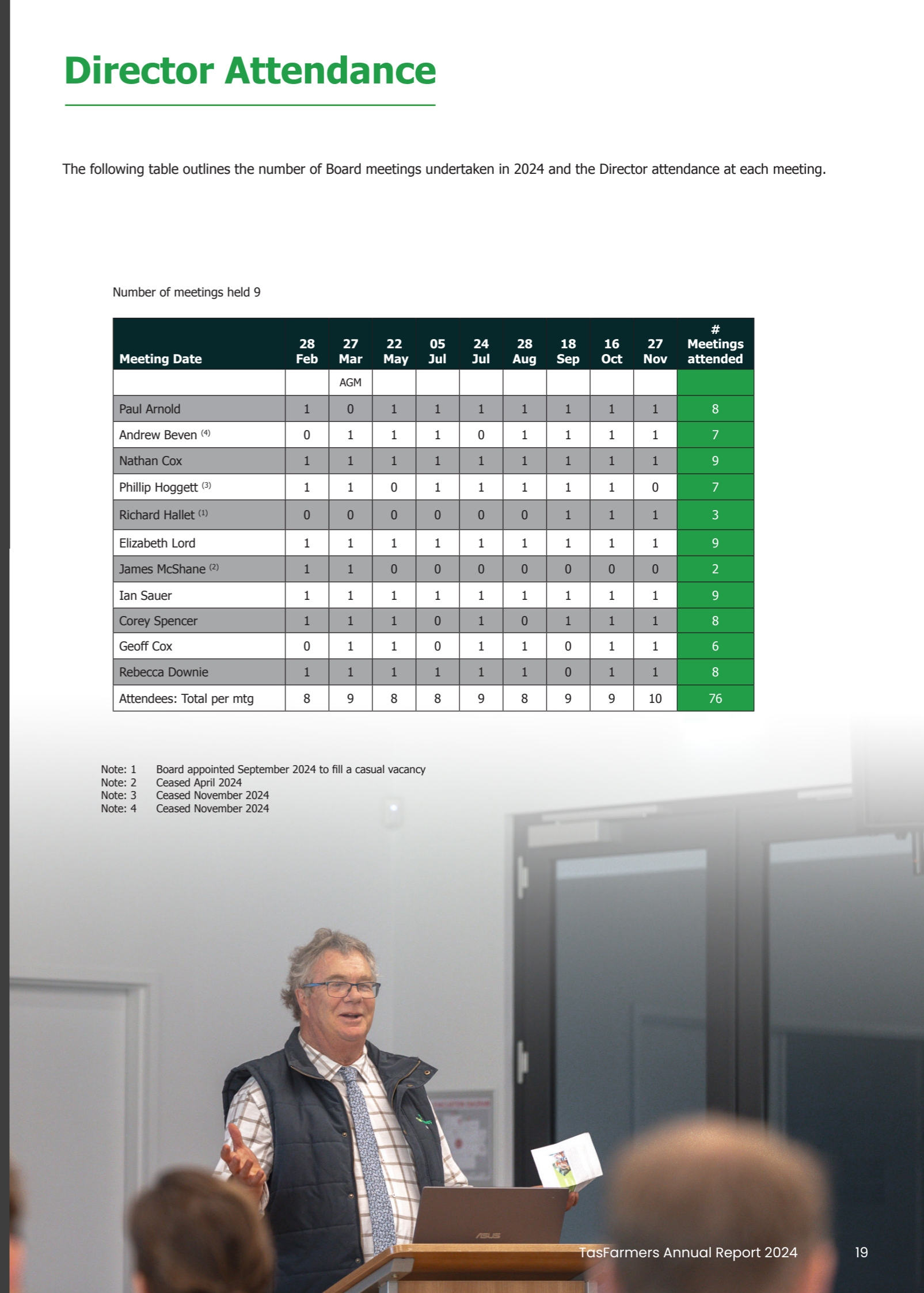
Director Attendance

The following table outlines the number of Board meetings undertaken in 2024 and the Director attendance at each meeting.

Number of meetings held 9

Meeting Date	28 Feb	27 Mar	22 May	05 Jul	24 Jul	28 Aug	18 Sep	16 Oct	27 Nov	# Meetings attended
		AGM								
Paul Arnold	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
Andrew Beven ⁽⁴⁾	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	7
Nathan Cox	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Phillip Hoggett ⁽³⁾	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	7
Richard Hallet ⁽¹⁾	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3
Elizabeth Lord	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
James McShane ⁽²⁾	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Ian Sauer	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Corey Spencer	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	8
Geoff Cox	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	6
Rebecca Downie	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	8
Attendees: Total per mtg	8	9	8	8	9	8	9	9	10	76

Note: 1 Board appointed September 2024 to fill a casual vacancy
 Note: 2 Ceased April 2024
 Note: 3 Ceased November 2024
 Note: 4 Ceased November 2024



Financials

The financial statements for 2024, are only available to voting members upon request to the TasFarmers office.



PROUDLY PRESENTS

Farmx

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF FARMING
TOGETHER

SAVE THE DATE
Thursday 21st August 2025

MORE DETAILS TO COME SOON





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