



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Forestry**

# Biosecurity Update and Reforms 2026

Freight & Trade Alliance  
Border Compliance Program

**Ben Rowntree - Director**

**Mark Sobey - Director**

**Goods and Conveyance Policy – Biosecurity Operations Division**





# Overview

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- Sea Cargo Policy Reforms
  - STEPS update
  - Introducing the Biosecurity Business Pledge Australia
  - HCI and Class 19 update
  - Imported food update
  - Further Information
  - Questions
-



# Impacts of conflict in the Middle East

## Focus areas for the department:

- Fuel and fertiliser security are key focuses.
- Supporting and accelerating biosecurity clearance of critical imports ([IIAN 52-2026](#), [IIAN 55-2026](#)).
- Streamlining border processes for imported fertiliser.
- Published updated inorganic fertiliser management policy ([IIAN 56-2026](#)).





Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture,  
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# Sea Cargo Policy Reforms

Freight & Trade Alliance  
Border Compliance Program

2026

**Ben Rowntree - Director**

Sea Cargo Policy & Strategic Engagement  
Goods and Conveyance Policy

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# Draft New Vehicle Policy Update

## Key policy changes:

- Compliance model is based on onshore inspection outcomes.
- Compliance status is determined by the Supplier ID code in recorded in the Integrated Cargo System (ICS).
- Vehicle suppliers and manufacturers are encouraged to implement offshore measures to ensure vehicles meet import conditions and manage biosecurity risk.
- Reduced onshore intervention for compliant suppliers.
- Increased onshore intervention for non-compliant suppliers.
- Applies to break bulk, containerised and air freight vehicles.





# Draft New Vehicle Policy Update

## Where it's at:

- New vehicle policy drafted.
- Internal departmental feedback completed.
- Relevant updates incorporated into the policy.



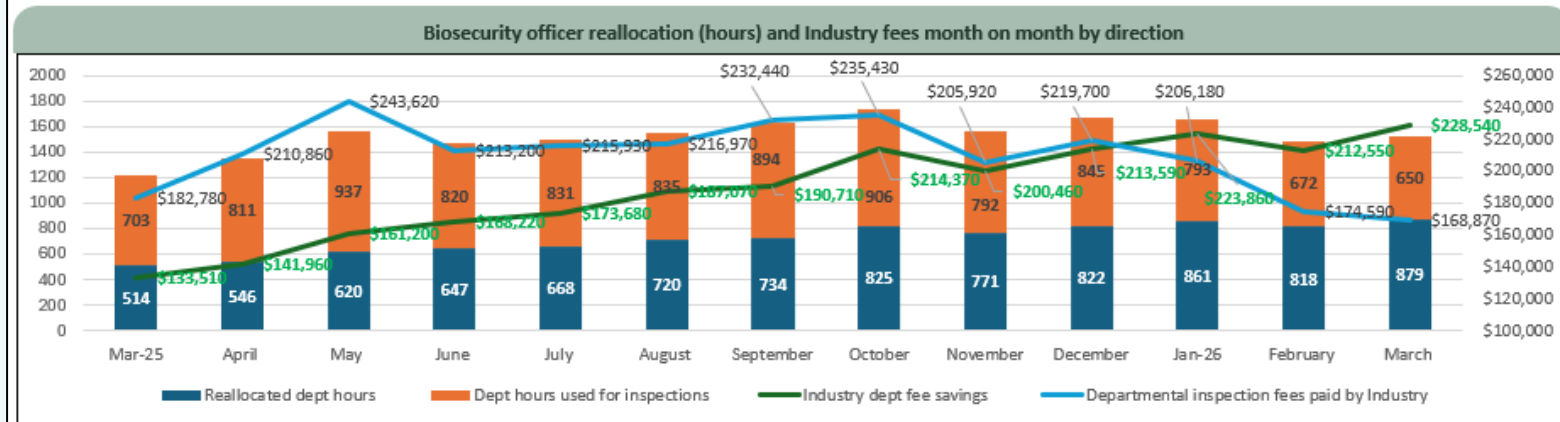
## What's next:

- Develop a 'Have Your Say' for stakeholder review and comment.
- Engage with stakeholders based on feedback received.
- Development of guidance material for suppliers, manufacturers and importers on minimising biosecurity risk material on vehicles offshore to meet import requirements on arrival.



# AA Class 14.4 – Rural Tailgate Inspection: March 2025 – March 2026

Class 14.4 (Rural tailgate inspection) authorises an approved BIP operating either a class 1.1 or class 1.3 (with approved class 4.3 wash bay facilities) to perform rural tailgate inspections and certain treatments, on containers destined for unpack in a rural classified location.



**99**

Percent of all departmental RTG directions were eligible for class 14.4

**39,848**

Total eligible AA Rural Tailgate Directions issued

**18,807**

Rural Tailgate inspection directions used by industry

**47,017**

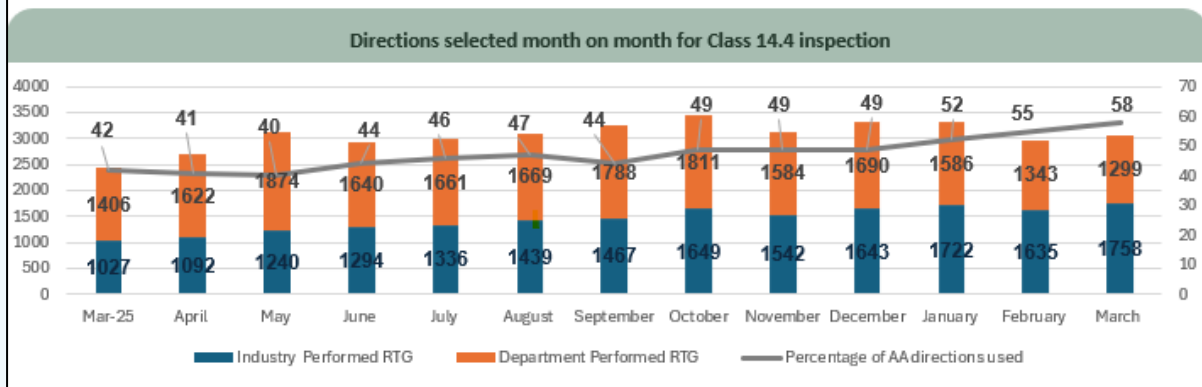
Industry performed RTG container inspections

**9,404**

Hours of Biosecurity officer time reallocated \*

**\$2.45 M**

Industry saved on departmental inspection fees\*\*



### 12-month RTG direction inspection use by state

State	Total eligible directions	AA performed directions	Department performed directions	Industry use of eligible directions
VIC	12,443	8,323	4,120	66%
NSW	9,616	3,447	6,169	36%
QLD	8,527	3,170	5,357	37%
WA	4,450	1,234	3,216	28%
SA	2,433	1,888	545	78%
TAS	2,155	632	1,523	29%
NT	224	113	111	51%
<b>National Total</b>	<b>39,848</b>	<b>18,807</b>	<b>21,041</b>	<b>47%</b>

\* Based on average 30 minutes per direction  
 \*\* Based on average cost of \$130 per direction



# Postcode Classification - Review

Outcome:

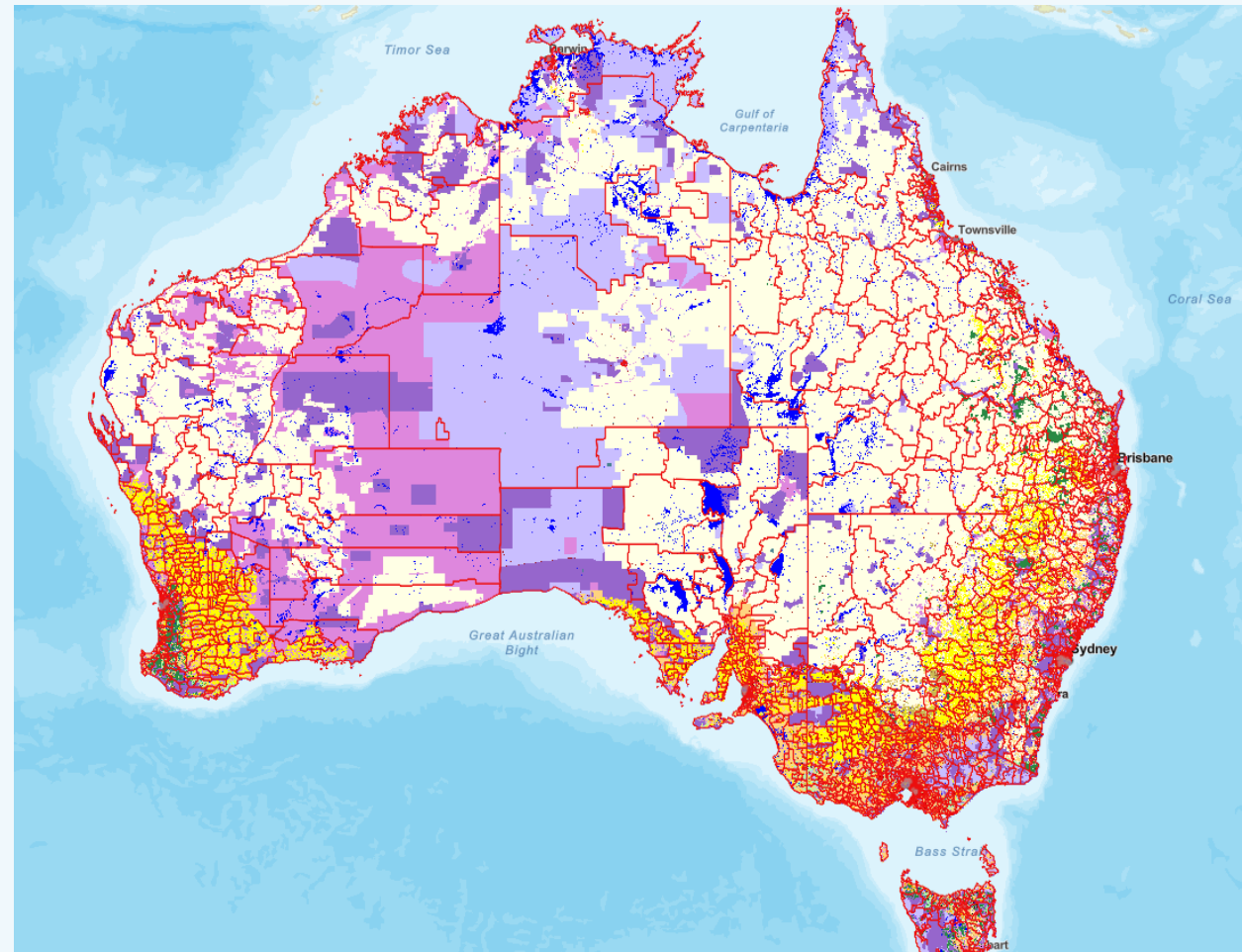
A nationally consistent, evidence-based postcode classification system that reflects today's land use, transport pathways, and biosecurity risks.



Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences



Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis (CEBRA)





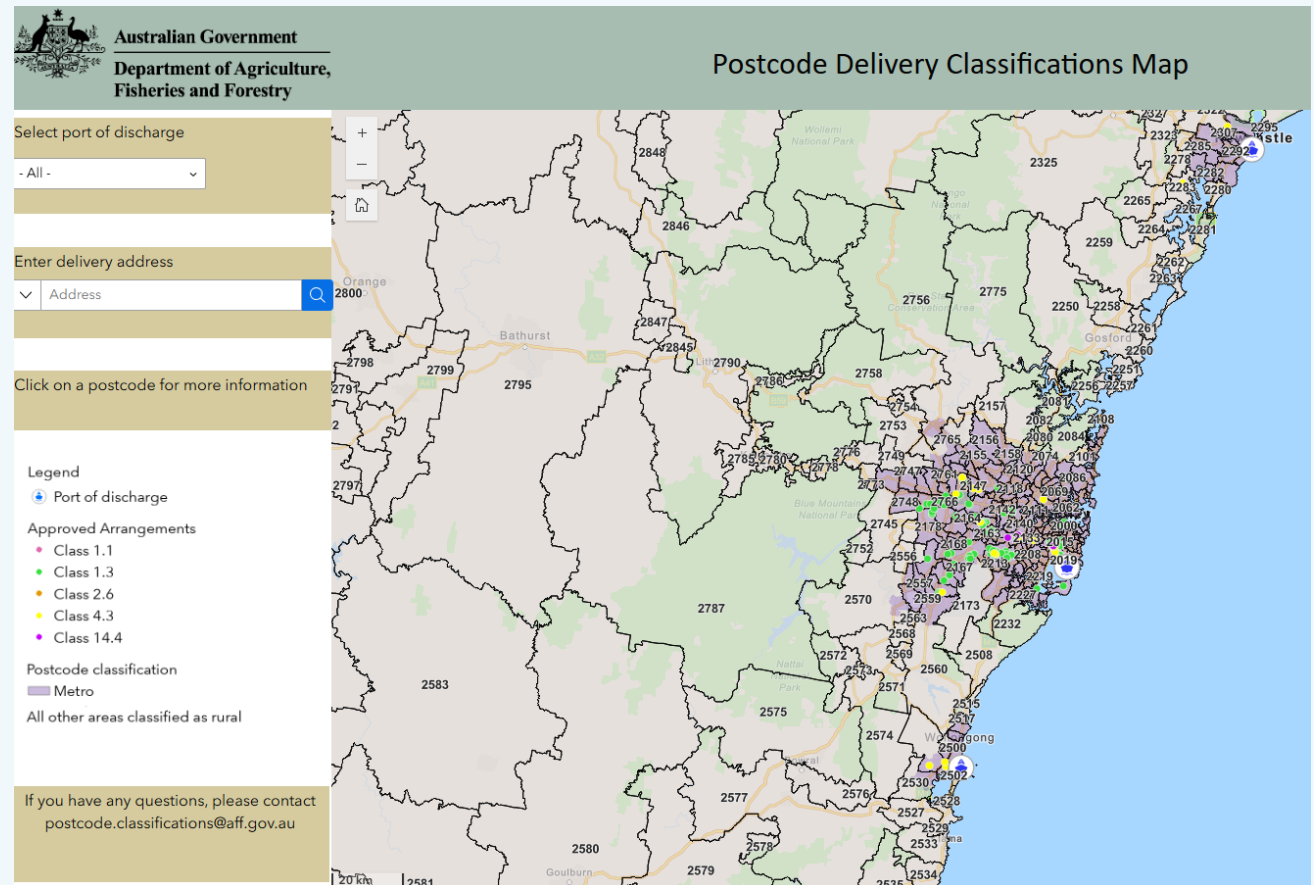
# Postcode Classification – Landbridging

## Current Position

- Movement beyond the metro port of discharge will require intervention.
- All inspection activities must be performed at the port of discharge prior to movement.
- Updates to departmental systems and Conditions to allow the continued use of Class 19.1 and Class 14.4.

## Interactive online map

- Exact delivery address information.
- Approved Arrangement locations.
- Port of discharge, AA site and Postcode information pop ups.





**Australian Government**  
**Department of Agriculture,  
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# STEPS Program Update

Simplified Targeting and Enhanced Processing Systems (STEPS)

Freight & Trade Alliance  
Border Compliance Program

2026

**Raj Lyer – Product Manager**

STEPS Implementation

Digital Solutions and Enablement

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# Overview

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- What is STEPS: Recap
- Engagement to date
- What has been delivered
- What is next for delivery
- Product highlight



# Australia's Cargo System Is Under Pressure

## The Core Challenges

### Legacy Systems & Manual Processes

Fragmented, outdated systems slow down every stage of cargo assessment and clearance, creating bottlenecks across the supply chain.

### No Industry Visibility

Industry partners have limited insight into cargo status, forcing reliance on calls and emails to track decisions.

### High Administrative Burden

Both government agencies and industry stakeholders invest time and resources in manual follow-ups and paperwork.

### Delays Drive Cost and Risk

Unpredictable processing times increase holding costs for industry and create compliance risk for the biosecurity system.

## The Bottom Line

The current model cannot scale or keep pace with the demands of modern trade. Australia needs a system built for the volume, complexity, and speed of today's global supply chains, not yesterdays.

Without transformation, the gap between trade demands and biosecurity capability will only widen.



# What Success Looks Like

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## End State Vision



### Integrated Platform

One system managing all cargo and containers across the biosecurity workflow.



### Near Real-Time Visibility

Industry and government both access near live status, decisions, and outcomes.



### Validated Decisions

Consistent, rules-based enabled decision making – aiming to reduce human error and delay.



### Better User Experience

Intuitive interfaces designed around the needs of stakeholder groups.

## Anticipated Impact



### Processing Speed

Measurably faster cargo clearance times through automation and digital workflows



### Industry Costs

Reduced clearance time, reduced holding and administration costs across the supply chain



### Biosecurity Outcomes

Improved biosecurity risk management and better data for stronger biosecurity protection



# How STEPS Delivers Value

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## Five Core Outcomes



**Faster and Easier Assessments** - Reduced end-to-end processing times through automation and streamlined decision pathways.



**Streamlined Inspections & Management** - Digital tools equipping inspectors with real-time data and workflow support in the field.



**Better Support for Industry** - Self-service capabilities, clear timelines, and transparency.



**Improved Data Capture & Visibility** - Centralised, high-quality data enabling better reporting, compliance, and risk analysis.



**Modern Digital Service** - Contemporary user interfaces replacing outdated legacy portals and paper-based processes.



## We've Been Working Together With Industry

STEPS is committed to a collaborative approach to program delivery – from discovery through development, rollout and beyond.



Industry roundtables

**12**

to date, across 6 states and continuing this year



Co-design

**110+**

discovery and co-design workshops as well as Industry user testing and early product use



# What Has Been Delivered

**Simplified Targeting and Enhanced Processing Systems (STEPS)**





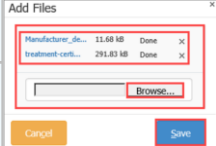












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# Industry Focussed Delivery

Enhanced Industry Arrangements and Support


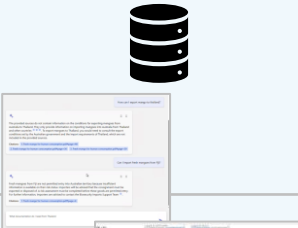

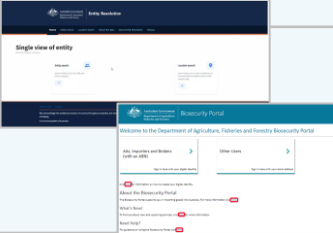
Product	Tech	Outcome	
 <b>Approved Arrangement Management Product (AAMP) – Release 1</b>	Addition of a new AA management tile on the Biosecurity Client Portal	Industry can update Approved Arrangement details online	
 <b>Electronic Verification for eCert (EVE)</b>	Addition of a new eCertificates tile on the Biosecurity Client Portal	Accredited persons access digital copies of sanitary certificates online	 
 <b>COLS enhancement 1</b>	Technical upgrades expanding file size limit to existing lodgement system	Industry can lodge documents at 2x the previous file size limit	
 <b>COLS enhancement 2</b>	Expansion of existing online lodgement system to accept informal entries as well as ship or aircraft stores and carnets, and trigger UPE assessment workflows	Enabling more lodgements through COLS rather than email, offering a more streamlined and modern workflow. Hypercare phase ended, no major issues	
 <b>Industry reporting release 1 – Biosecurity Cargo Status Tracker</b>	New Industry reporting tile (and underlying data analysis) available on the Biosecurity Portal	Industry and staff can check the status of consignments online	
 <b>Industry reporting release 2 – Fees and usage and uptake</b>	Addition of a Fees Report and an Approved Arrangement (AA) Class 19.2 Usage and Uptake reports under the Industry Reporting tile on the Biosecurity Portal	Staff and AA class 19.2 Biosecurity Industry Participants can now check fees and charges (records of service) associated with their consignments online	
 <b>Industry reporting release 3 – expanded access via. alternative login</b>	Access Biosecurity Industry Reports via the Biosecurity Portal using an additional log-in method, email and password.	Self-service reports mean that accredited persons will no longer need to rely on calling or emailing the department to get this information.	
 <b>ProviderHub</b>	New Offshore Treatment Provider (OTP) registration portal	Replacing the current email-based process for registration and renewal, offering a simpler exchange of details and more clarity and speed in processing	



# Data Improvements – Improve Our Readiness For AI

Alignment to original SPBC business goals:

Modernised data capture, use and visibility

Product	Tech	Outcome	
<p>✓ <b>Industry reporting release 1 – Biosecurity Cargo Status Tracker</b></p>	<p>New Industry reporting tile (and underlying data analysis) available on the Biosecurity Portal</p>	<p>Industry can check the status of consignments online</p>	
<p>✓ <b>Industry reporting release 2 – Fees and Class 19.2 usage and uptake reporting</b></p>	<p>Addition of a Fees Report and an Approved Arrangement (AA) Class 19.2 Usage and Uptake reports under the Industry Reporting tile on the Biosecurity Portal</p>	<p>Approved arrangement class 19’s Biosecurity Industry Participants can now check fees and charges (records of service) associated with their consignments online and the class 19.2 usage and uptake.</p>	
<p>✓ <b>AI PoC</b></p>	<p>Exploring the use of automated data extraction to assist in document assessment and check against policy requirements</p>	<p>Demonstrated strong potential as a supportive tool to provide consistency in document assessment, enabling faster and more consistent evaluations</p>	
<p>✓ <b>Industry reporting release 3 – expanded access via. alternative login</b></p>	<p>Expanding access for accredited persons to the Biosecurity Industry Reports via the Biosecurity Portal using an additional log-in method, email and password.</p>	<p>Self-service reports mean that accredited persons will no longer need to rely on calling or emailing the department to get this information.</p>	

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✓ Delivered



# What's Next For Delivery

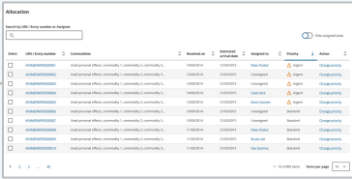
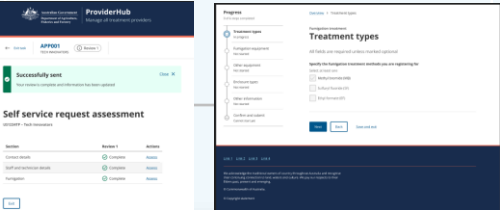
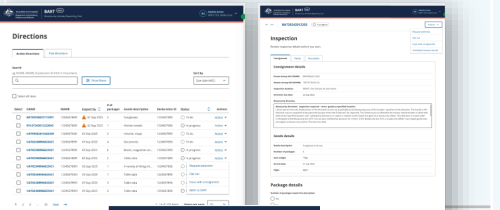
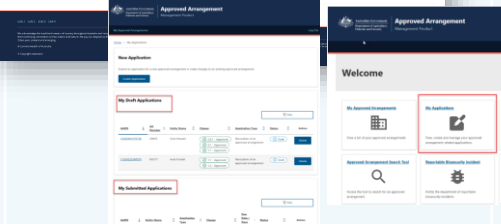
Simplified Targeting and Enhanced Processing Systems (STEPS)

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# What's Next

Product	Tech	Outcome	
			
<p>✓ <b>AAMP phase 2</b></p>	<p>Accredited Persons (AP) record management in AAMP. My application forms for external users in the sequence of revocations, suspension, and new arrangement forms.</p>	<p>Enabling more streamlined methods for clients to engage with the department</p>	
<p>✓ <b>BART (14.3, 14.4 and 2.6) covering frontend and backend integrations with internal and external systems</b></p>	<p>replacing paper and email-based inspection and treatment reporting with a streamlined, central online system with maximum automation and integration with internal and external systems</p>	<p>Industry can report inspection and treatment information enabling quicker assessment outcomes such as clearance of cargo and containers from the wharf.</p>	
<p>✓ <b>ProviderHub Release 2</b></p>	<p>Expansion of release 1 with additional feature to allow renewals of existing registrations, self-service functionality for OTPs and addition of Heat Treatment</p>	<p>Ability to register and renew online-OTPs under AusTreat; efficient assessment workflows to manage registrations and compliance.</p>	



# Product Highlight

**Simplified Targeting and Enhanced Processing Systems (STEPS)**

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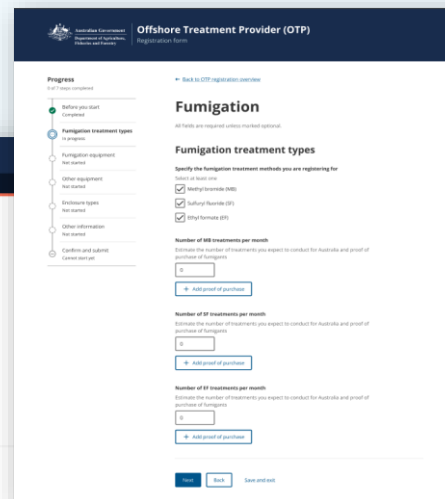
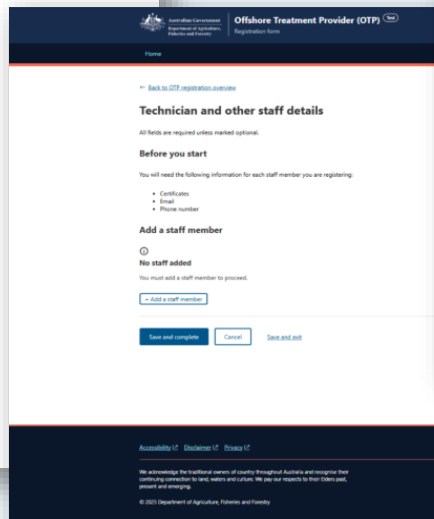
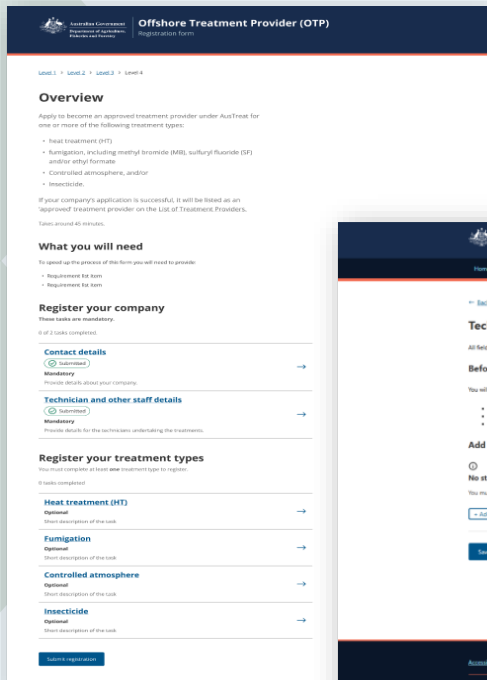
# ProviderHub Product Highlight

Release 1 Delivered

- Offshore treatment providers under AusTreat can register online
- Ability for registered providers to add new treatments to their existing registration.
- Efficient assessment process supporting a consistent, transparent and auditable approach to compliance.

ProviderHub strengthens Australia’s borders by improving oversight and compliance of offshore biosecurity treatments, helping to manage biosecurity risk before goods arrive in Australia and supporting more effective onshore risk management.

We estimate ProviderHub will contribute significant savings to both the department and to the importing industry



<p><b>B1) Reduced cost of regulation for the department annually</b></p>	<p><b>B3) Reduced holding cost for industry annually</b></p>	<p><b>Total benefits annually</b></p>
<p>\$328k</p>	<p>\$16.2m</p>	<p>\$16.6m</p>

INDICATIVE ONLY

A Release-2 is scheduled by the end of the 2025-26 financial year.



# Biosecurity Industry Reporting Product Highlight

Delivered

The Biosecurity Industry Reporting is an interactive digital report that allows approved arrangement class 19 accredited persons to view details of their cargo currently being managed by the department.

## What you can see

- ✓ Entries currently in progress
- ✓ Status of referred consignments
- ✓ Consignment and historical details
- ✓ Search by entry reference number
- ✓ Designed with industry, the reports make it easier to track consignments, understand progress, and reduce follow-up enquiries.

Status	Intervention	Initiated by	Initiating datetime	Entry ID	Direction	Direction hold reason	Direction status	Result	Directed lines/container	Standard direction comment	Additional direction comment	Declaration/certificate comments
Completed	Final direction	Department only	04/01/2024 12:25:00 PM	nr33ccyat	Admin Finalised OE Reg	Biosecurity	Completed		1			
Completed	DAFF internal use	Department only	04/01/2024 12:54:00 PM	nr33ccyat	DAFF internal direction	Biosecurity	Completed	See Final Directives	1-7	m k mskka k k : m k k k s amkka ak k smk msk ka k		
Completed	Treatment	Approved arrangement	27/1/2023 3:26:00 PM	nr33ccyat	Methyl Bromide BMSI	Biosecurity	Completed	Treatment OK	2-7	akka akas akam a k k k k s k k k k k m k k s sm kkm m s sm a a k smk s s sm a smk s m s k k s 27 k maa k mskka mm m k s m s m s k k maa s k km s k s m k k k m m m a s s s k k k k k k m m k k k m m k k k s s k k k k k s m s k m k m m k k m m k m m k k k s m s k m sm s k m s m k k m akk s k km k m m s k k k s sm k k		

The Biosecurity Industry Reporting allows approved arrangement class 19 accredited persons to self-service online via the Biosecurity Portal using the Industry Reporting tile to **check the status of their consignments, view the fees and charges, and view their entries processed under their AA Class 19.2**



# Product Highlight

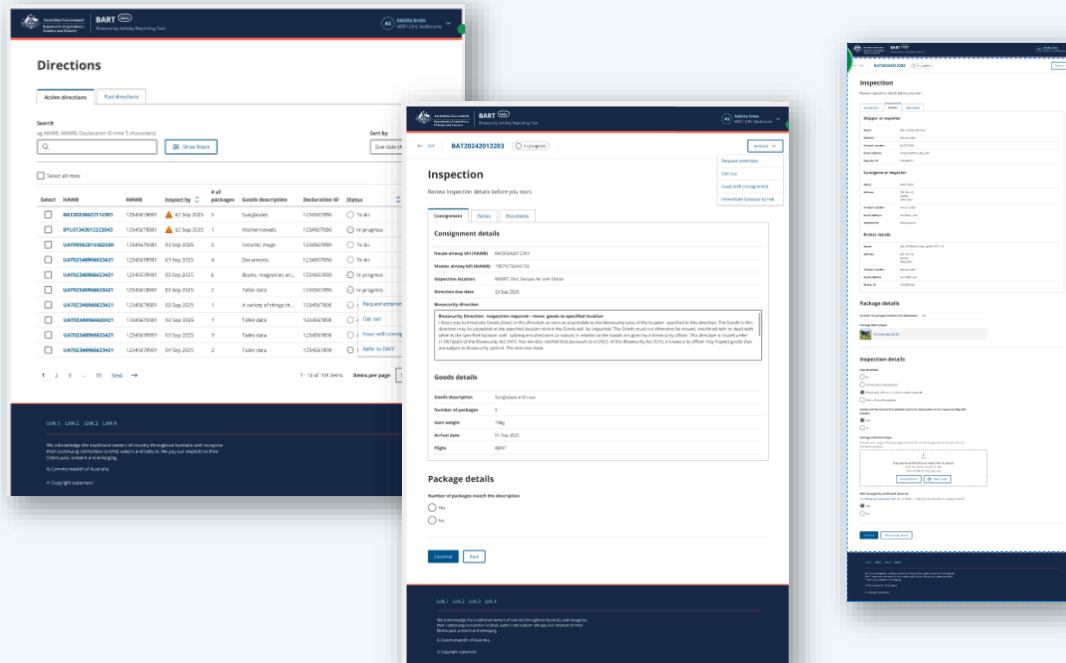
**COMING SOON**

## Biosecurity Activity Reporting Tool (BART)

*Industry can report inspection outcomes online*



Replacing paper-based and email inspection and treatment reporting with a streamlined, central online system, reducing inefficient manual processes and subsequent delays in releasing consignments, and more transparency surrounding scope and compliance with AA class limitations, including traceability of decisions. Beginning with AA class 14.3.



*Meeting with DHL and FedEx for BART 14.3 in August 2025*



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**Want to talk to us about  
improving cargo clearance?**

**[STEPS@aff.gov.au](mailto:STEPS@aff.gov.au)**





**Australian Government**  
**Department of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Forestry**

# Biosecurity Pledge

Freight & Trade Alliance  
Border Compliance Program  
2026

**Gayle Holmik – Director**  
Biosecurity Education  
Risk Intelligence and Strategy

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## The Biosecurity Business Pledge

- A practical biosecurity initiative for Australian businesses.
- Designed to help manage biosecurity risk before issues arise.
- Supports supply chain resilience and business continuity.
- Voluntary and industry-informed.
- Focused on practical value, not regulation.

Take the Biosecurity Business Pledge  
visit [biosecurity.gov.au/pledge](https://biosecurity.gov.au/pledge)

**BIOSECURITY  
BUSINESS PLEDGE**  
AUSTRALIA





# Your Pledge

## Your pledge

We are dedicated to safeguarding Australia by preventing the entry and spread of pests, weeds and diseases. We pledge to actively contribute to our national biosecurity system by implementing proactive biosecurity measures in our operations and supply chains.

By taking the pledge we:

- see biosecurity as a shared responsibility and that we all have an important role to play.
- actively look for and address biosecurity risks across all aspects of our operations, including the movement of goods, equipment, and people, and throughout our supply chain.
- take a proactive approach to biosecurity management across our organisation, involving everyone to help protect Australia's natural resources, economy, and way of life.
- include best practice biosecurity measures in our purchasing policies that guide how we choose goods, travel options, logistics and service providers.
- help our customers, employees, suppliers, and stakeholders recognise the importance of biosecurity and understand what effective biosecurity practices look like.
- will work closely with the Australian Government and other organisations to strengthen biosecurity in Australia.

I understand and agree to the pledge as part of joining the network. \*

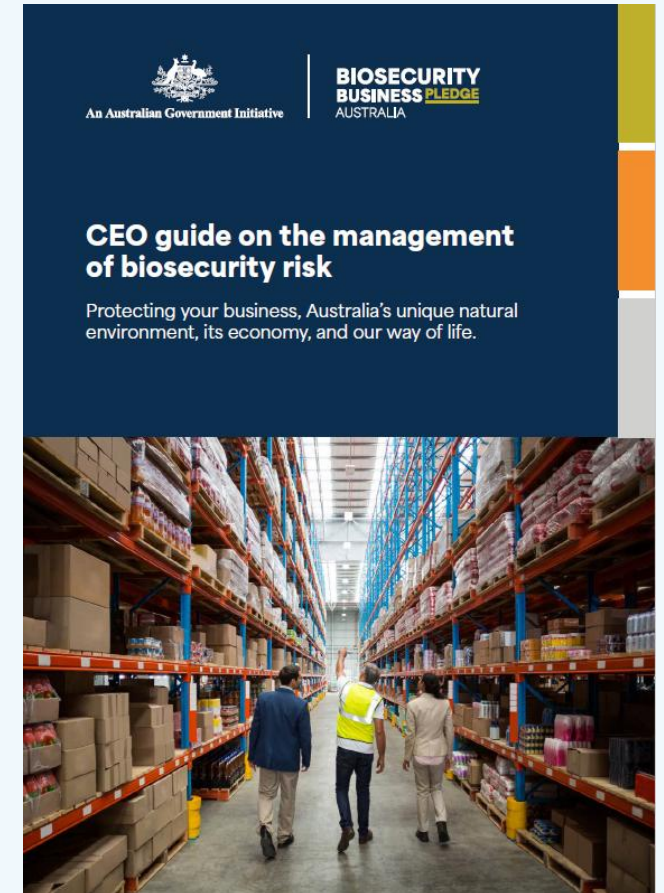
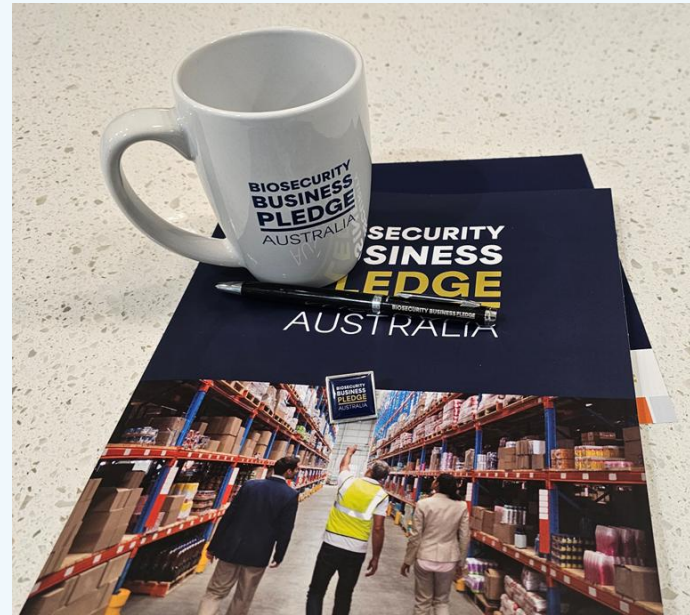
- Strengthens biosecurity risk management.
- Covers operations and supply chains.
- Internal practices and external commitment.
- Proactive and practical approach.





# Benefits of taking the Biosecurity Business Pledge

- Network access.
- Practical support.
- Department connection.
- Public recognition.
- No cost, low effort.





**Protect your business.  
Strengthen your industry.  
Safeguard Australia.**

Take the  
**PLEDGE**



**Take the PLEDGE!**

For more information and to take the pledge, visit [www.biosecurity.gov.au/pledge](http://www.biosecurity.gov.au/pledge) or contact us at [bbn@aff.gov.au](mailto:bbn@aff.gov.au)

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**Australian Government**  
**Department of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Forestry**

# HCI/Class 19 Update

**Freight & Trade Alliance  
Border Compliance Program  
2026**

**Mark Sobey - Director**  
Cargo Information Policy  
Goods and Conveyance Policy

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# Strengthening Biosecurity Compliance

Understanding obligations on importers and their representatives

Subject to biosecurity control  
Section 119 of *Biosecurity Act 2015*

s119(2) The goods become subject to biosecurity control when the aircraft or vessel carrying the goods enters Australian territory.

s119(3) The goods remain subject to biosecurity control until they are released under Division 10.

All goods entering Australia are subject to biosecurity control without exception.

Goods must be released from biosecurity control.





# Strengthening Biosecurity Compliance

## Biosecurity notices clarifying text – no change to process, rights or responsibilities.

Clarifying text has been added to some notices issued by the department's electronic systems.

There are NO changes to process, rights or responsibilities.

The change provides additional clarity to ensure those receiving the notice understand their obligations.

The following or similar text will appear on some notices:

*This direction comes into effect:*

- *immediately if the goods are subject to biosecurity control at the time it was issued; or*
- *immediately upon the goods becoming subject to biosecurity control if this notice was issued before the goods arrived in Australian territory.*

Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries AGPS 24 180 84 80		Biosecurity Direction Documentation Document Processing Required		TR6190426 Treatment - Other Scheme
To the Importer or any person having possession or custody of the Goods including operators of Approved Arrangements you must comply with all requirements in this direction. All components of this document form part of the direction.				
<b>General Information:</b>		A continuation of this direction constitutes a continuation of the Biosecurity Act 2015. The Goods (more identified below) are subject to Biosecurity control. This direction has been applied to the Importer's use. The goods must not be moved, dealt with or interfered with unless otherwise stated in this direction. Where movement is required to carry out the Biosecurity Activity, the goods must be moved directly to the required location. A copy of this direction must accompany the goods to the destination indicated. A person is guilty of a criminal offence if they contravene a Biosecurity direction. You may be liable to a civil penalty for giving false or misleading information. This direction comes into effect immediately if the goods are subject to biosecurity control at the time it was issued, or immediately upon the goods becoming subject to biosecurity control if this notice was issued before the goods arrived in Australian territory.		
<b>Brokerage Name:</b>	As per importer (CS)	<b>Importer Name:</b>	SAM CSB	
<b>Brokerage Branch:</b>	As per importer branch (CS)	<b>Importer Branch Name:</b>	VF CSB Brokers ACT PTY LTD	
<b>Client's Reference:</b>	CS5AdmData			
<b>Container Numbers:</b>	CTAU2140425 FCL			
<b>Commercial Bills:</b>	CBCL HLCUHL190814364 HBCL HC139684			
<b>Arrival Date:</b>	10 Jul 2020	<b>Waybill No.:</b>	9015	
<b>Vessel Name:</b>	ANL WARRNAMBOOL	<b>Lloyd's Registration:</b>	3440772	
<b>This notice is given by (Officer ID):</b>	Automated Process	<b>Date:</b>	21 Apr 2020 9:03 AM	
<b>1</b>	Biosecurity Officer authorized under Section 146 of the Biosecurity Act 2015 All times listed on this document are in Australian Eastern Standard Time.			
<b>Direction:</b>	The goods listed below must have the following Biosecurity Activity carried out: <b>Documentation: Document Processing Required</b> in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2015.			
<b>AEI Field:</b>	CA2016UT			
<b>Carry Out Biosecurity Activity (DAFF Office Automatic Process (XXX))</b>	at:			
<b>Address:</b>	None			
<b>Timetable:</b>	Ensure that the listed direction is carried out prior to 28 Apr 2020. Please supply any requested information/documentation to your regional office.			
<b>Lines</b>	<b>Legal Refs</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Package</b>	<b>Country</b>
1	PHYSIO-PHARMACEUTICALS	5000 40 00		NEW ZEALAND
2	CTAU2140425 Non-Commercial	1 00 00		NEW ZEALAND



## Due Diligence on Documents

**When assessing documents under approved arrangement class 19, ask yourself:**

- Has this document been issued by the correct entity?
- Is it endorsed in an acceptable manner?
- Are there any unendorsed alterations?
- Does it present any conflicting information?

**If in doubt refer it to the department:**

- By using the relevant volunteer concern code BCOM or BNCC.
- Upload the documentation in COLS with a detailed explanation of your concerns.





## Non-Commodity General Declaration Question

**Are you an accredited person for FCL/X non-commodity clearances? (ID 6)**

**Are you an accredited person for LCL non-commodity clearances? (ID 8)**

- Where a branch ID is not approved to lodge under approved arrangement class 19.1, this question must be answered 'No' regardless of the individual's accreditation status.
- This includes branch IDs with current applications in progress that have not yet been approved.
- **Class 19 accreditation status enquiries: email [class19@aff.gov.au](mailto:class19@aff.gov.au)**





## Class 19 Micro-Learning Is Coming To LearnHub

### Supporting CBC and biosecurity compliance

- **Just-in-time and refresher learning** - Bite-size modules and videos (5–10 minutes) to support ongoing CBC and biosecurity obligations when learning is needed most.
- **Support when issues arise** - Where non-compliance occurs and a relevant module exists, learning can help clarify requirements and support early correction.
- **Growing library over time** - A planned, expanding set of modules developed over time in response to common issues, changes, and emerging risks.





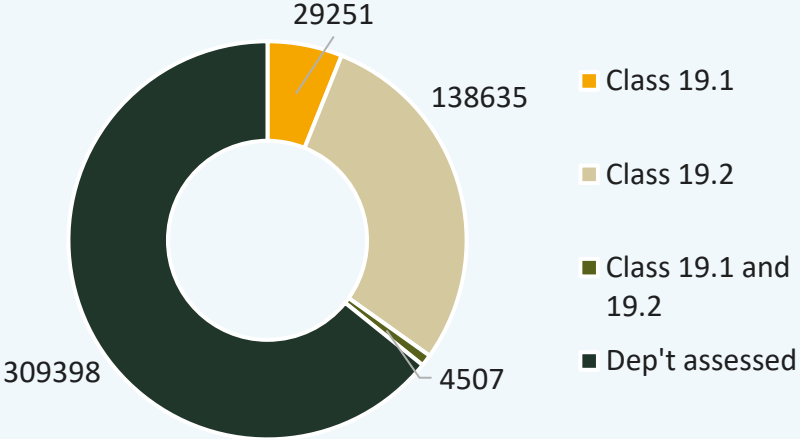
# Usage Of Approved Arrangement Class 19

Q1-Q3 (June 2025 – March 2026) shows:

**171,999**  
Entries lodged  
under class 19

**2.9%**  
Non-compliance  
rate

**\$2,717,604**  
Industry savings  
using class 19



## Top 5 class 19.1 referrals

Concern type	Code	Entry count
Rural unpack destination – class 14.4	RUAA	13,714
Rural unpack destination – class 1	RURL	13,288
Packing declaration concerns	PDIN	3,158
Volunteered – non commodity concerns	BNCC	1,452
Volunteered – commodity concerns	BCOM	901



## Top 5 class 19.2 commodities

Commodity	Eligible	Entry count	Proportion lodged %
Manufactured wooden articles	97,905	53,794	54.9
Used vehicles, aircraft, machinery	78,912	36,772	46.6
New Tyres	28,864	24,064	83.4
BMSB high risk goods	68,631	17,763	25.9
Seafood	12,364	5,460	44.2



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Forestry**

# Imported Food

Freight & Trade Alliance  
Border Compliance Program  
2026

**Tania Martin - Director**  
Imported Food  
Residues and Food

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# Imported Food - Update On Current Activities

## Sunset review of imported food legislation

- Legislation for imported food – overview
- Sunset review process

## New food safety requirements

- Enoki mushrooms
- Kava from New Zealand
- Melons and Pufferfish





# Legislation For Imported Food

## 1. The Biosecurity Act 2015

- Some food not permitted for import
- Some food requires permits and/or certification
- Some food may require treatment before being imported
- Border inspection and testing may apply

See [BICON](#) for import conditions

Food must pass biosecurity requirements first

## 2. Imported Food Control Act 1992

- Risk-based border inspection scheme ([IFIS](#))
- Some foods are prohibited e.g. [prohibited plants and fungi](#)
- Some foods require [certification](#)
- Border [inspection and testing](#) may apply

See [BICON](#) for more information



How to import food into Australia  
- A step-by-step guide



# Sunseting of Imported Food Legislation

Under the *Legislation Act 2003*, legislative instruments automatically "sunset" (cease to have effect) after 10 years unless they are remade or repealed before their sunseting date.

## Why sunseting matters?

1. Ensures that legislative instruments are up to date and only remain in force for as long as they are needed.
2. Provides an opportunity for agencies to review and streamline legislative instruments.
3. Is an important mechanism for reducing red tape, delivering clearer laws and aligning existing legislation with current government policy.

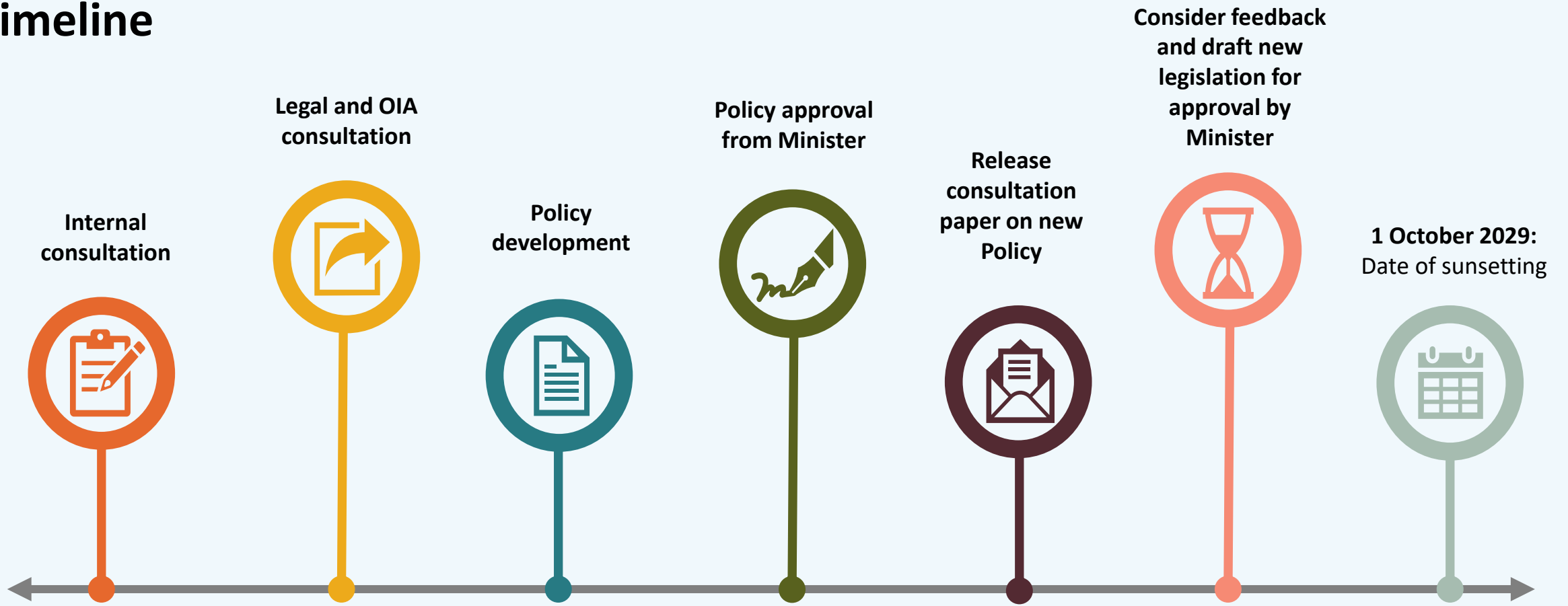


## Legislative Instruments Under Review

- **Imported Food Control Regulations 2019**
- **Imported Food Control Order 2019**
- **Imported Food Control (Recordkeeping) Determination 2019**



# Timeline





## Managing Food Safety Risks

The Imported Food Control Order 2019 provides for the operation of the risk-based Imported Food Inspection Scheme by identifying risk foods.

This is based on [advice published by Foods Standards Australia New Zealand](#) that the food poses a potential medium or high risk to public health.

Schedule 1 lists risk food (targeted risk management). There are currently 26 foods on this list.

Schedule 2 lists risk food that is New Zealand product (required to be inspected).

Subsection 6 lists food that must be covered by a recognised foreign government certificate.

Subsection 7 lists risk food that must be covered by a food safety management certificate.



## New Food Safety Requirements For Imported Foods

Food type	Identified hazard(s)	New food safety requirements
Enoki mushrooms	Listeria monocytogenes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Classified as a risk food</li><li>Border testing for Listeria monocytogenes</li><li>Verify labelling includes storage and cooking instructions</li></ul> When: 02 March 2026
Kava products from New Zealand		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Kava from New Zealand no longer exempt from IFIS due to Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Arrangement (TTMRA).</li><li>Check compliance with ANZ Food Standards Code (Standard 2.6.3 Kava)</li></ul> When: 02 March 2026
Fresh/frozen melons	Listeria monocytogenes Salmonella spp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Will be classified as a risk food</li><li>Will require a food safety management certificate</li></ul> When: March 2027
Pufferfish	Tetrodotoxin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Will be classified as a risk food</li><li>Will require foreign government certification</li></ul> When: March 2028

We use the [Have Your Say](#) platform to consult on proposed changes to food safety requirements for new risk foods



## For More Information

Page	Description
<a href="#">Imported food notices - DAFF</a>	Provides information on changes to (food safety) requirements for food imported into Australia.
<a href="#">Imported food legislation</a>	Summarises imported food legislation, biosecurity laws and imported food laws.
<a href="#">BICON - Australian Biosecurity Import Conditions</a>	BICON is a database that can help you determine: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. what biosecurity import conditions exist and if an import permit is required, and</li><li>2. what food safety requirements apply</li></ol>
<a href="#">Imported Food Inspection Scheme - DAFF</a>	Summarises the IFIS and provides definitions of food categories, food safety recognition agreements, voluntary government certification, food inspection and failing food.
<a href="#">How to import food into Australia - DAFF</a>	Provides an overview of considerations for importing food into Australia
<a href="#">Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code</a>	Food Standards Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code legislation page.

Or contact: [foodimp@aff.gov.au](mailto:foodimp@aff.gov.au)



# Questions

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## **Ben Rowntree, Director**

Sea Cargo Policy and Strategic Engagement - Cargo and Conveyances Policy  
Biosecurity Operation Division

## **Mark Sobey, Director**

Cargo Information Policy - Cargo and Conveyances Policy  
Biosecurity Operation Division

