

QUEENSLAND BEEF PROCESSING

Strategy 2019-2022
PROGRESS REPORT

The Queensland Government is committed to maintaining a globally competitive beef processing industry in Queensland by working in partnership with industry to deliver the actions under the Queensland Beef Processing Strategy. Growing Queensland's beef processing industry will boost the economy, create and protect jobs, and support regional communities.

Launch
2019

Completion
2022

Unite & Recover

The Queensland beef processing industry plays a critical role in Australia's food supply chain. The emergence of COVID-19 raised concerns of a potential industry shutdown if there was an outbreak within a work environment. The Queensland Government responded quickly, working with industry and Safe Food Queensland to develop solutions that provided safer workplaces and protected staff from potential infection. Beef exports into new markets via airfreight have increased, thanks to an alliance with the federal government. The Queensland Government also recently provided financial support towards the development of a Trade Distribution Centre next to Toowoomba's Wellcamp airport, which will increase beef and other exports. I look forward to continuing working with industry to help realise new opportunities into the future.

The Honourable Steven Miles MP
DEPUTY PREMIER and MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT



Case study – Developing skilled meat workers at Oakey Beef Exports

Oakey Beef Exports received support under the Australian Meat Processing Career Pathways Program to develop and fully train meat workers to perform at the highest standards. The skills necessary to work in the production area of a beef processing plant are unique to the industry. New employees enter the industry without meat processing skills and extensive training and support is required to help develop a highly skilled workforce. The support received under this program enabled processing labourers at Oakey Beef Exports to become highly skilled and competent meat slicers. The training development process incorporated both classroom training, assessments, substantial on-the-job training and mentoring from more experienced operators, in order to attain a Certificate 3 in Meat Processing.



Queensland
Government



Achievements under the Queensland Beef Processing Strategy 2019-2022

Priority 1

Enhancing industry engagement and representation

- › Chaired three working group meetings to monitor the actions being delivered under the strategy.
- › Trade missions to Indonesia and Singapore during November 2019. The Queensland Government also hosted representatives from the Chinese Chongqing municipality, to actively promote Queensland's high-quality beef.
- › Working across government to develop a potential Free Trade Agreement with the United Kingdom.

Priority 2

Ensuring efficient movement of livestock and freight

- › Working to improve livestock transportation through implementation of Regional Transport Plans, Livestock Services Contracts, the Queensland Transport and Roads Investments Program and rail infrastructure upgrades.
- › Developing the Freight for the Meatworks Sector - future directions statement, to provide policy direction that supports the industry's freight transport needs.

Priority 3

Building and retaining a skilled workforce

- › Providing regional beef processors with referrals to the Department of Employment and Small Business for upskilling and other training packages.
- › Direct support for employment sectors and workers impacted by industry downturns.
- › Support for skills acquisition, training needs, jobs growth, and employment opportunities via the inaugural Meat Processing Skills and Training Industry Reference Group held in early 2021.
- › Enhancing the recruitment and retention of skilled staff and creating new training pathways through the newly established Manufacturing Skills Working Group.
- › Developed an online information resource for management, mentoring and leadership courses.

Priority 4

Investing in supply chain and processing efficiency

- › Expert information on new manufacturing technology and process improvements provided through presentations from the Queensland Manufacturing Institute (QMI) and the Advanced Robotics for Manufacturing (ARM) Hub.
- › Monitored the industry's innovation needs to ensure the development and availability of relevant government programs.
- › Strategic state government investment resulting in additional employment and improved efficiencies.
- › The following beef processing companies were recipients of the Queensland Government Jobs and Regional Growth Fund:
 - › JBS Australia received funding to employ and train 400 workers in the Ipswich area.
 - › John Dee Warwick Pty Ltd received funding to undertake a beef processing facility expansion and employ 155 new workers in the Darling Downs region.
 - › Signature Onfarm Pty Ltd received funding to develop the Signature Onfarm Sondella abattoir in Clermont and employ 90 new workers.