

## Onion Strategic Investment Advisory Panel meeting summary

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**Date:** 14 March 2018

**Attendance:** Cath Botta, Richard Jones, Yvonne Smith, Julian Shaw, Tony Higgs, Steve Rathjen, Kees Versteeg, Peter Shadbolt, Brad Mills, Greg Murdoch, Samantha Ferguson.

**Location:** Parkroyal Hotel, Melbourne Airport

**Next Meeting:** 18 October 2018

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### Overview

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The purpose of this meeting was to:

1. Review and prioritise the objectives, strategies and actions identified in the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP)
2. Assess project concepts received and develop the scope of key investment priorities
3. To provide an update on the development of the 2017/18 marketing investment program.

An update was provided on a range of topics currently involving Hort Innovation including the upcoming review of by the Australian Government (occurs every four years) as well as improvements in transparency of operations including further cost allocation breakdowns in industry financial reports. The resignation of Hort Innovation CEO John Lloyd was also mentioned.

Hort Innovation led a discussion where the SIAP reviewed the current SIP and identified gaps in current investments under the SIP's various strategies as well as prioritising the strategies for future investments.

Anyone seeking further information on Hort Innovation's onion R&D investments should note that a full list of projects, together with an overview of the program financials are available on the onion webpage of the Hort Innovation website.

### Next steps

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The SIAP recommended that several priority investment concepts including export market development, product differentiation review, industry collaboration opportunities and international speaker workshops be developed for potential tender and future investment. An export working group will review recommendations for implementation of the onion export plan.

### Contact

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