



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 4 – INDUSTRY

MEDIA RELEASE

REPORT TABLED ON THE DAIRY INDUSTRY IN NSW

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

13 May 2021

An Upper House Committee has today handed down its report and recommendations into the long-term sustainability of the dairy industry in New South Wales.

The Hon Mark Banasiak MLC, Committee Chair, said: "The sustainability of the dairy industry in New South Wales, and in fact Australia wide, is of great concern. The committee heard during this inquiry that there are a number of factors that are impacting on the viability and profitability of dairy farming, including the drought and recent bushfires, as well as market and pricing issues."

The Chair continued, "This is the second inquiry conducted by a New South Wales Legislative Council committee into the sustainability of the dairy industry. Many of the concerns raised by stakeholders in the first inquiry conducted in 2018, are much the same in this inquiry, begging the question as to whether recent government actions are making enough of an impact on the viability of the dairy industry. The committee has therefore made eight recommendations in its report to further support the viability, profitability and long-term sustainability of the dairy industry in New South Wales."

"The report recommends that the Dairy Advocate work with the Australian Government to further refine the provisions under the Dairy Industry Code of Conduct and investigate measures to improve the dairy milk pricing environment, as well as finalising the New South Wales Dairy Industry Action Plan. Further, the report recommends support to new dairy farmers entering the industry, including additional funding for dairy specific traineeships, subsidised university degrees and TAFE programs, as well as support for farmers wishing to transition out of the dairy industry," said the Chair.

The Chair concluded: "The dairy industry in New South Wales can be sustainable in the long-term, with support and commitment from government and industry stakeholders. The government is urged to take action to ensure that we do not lose our local dairy farmers and an industry that brings great economic benefits to the state of New South Wales."

The committee's report and other inquiry documents can be found on the committee's [website](#).

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For further information, please contact Committee Chair, the Hon Mark Banasiak MLC, on (02) 9230 3511.