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## MEDIA RELEASE

### United Kingdom says cheerio to VI1 certificate.

Australian Grape & Wine welcomes the [recent announcement](#) from the United Kingdom (UK) government, that they will remove VI-1 certification for all wine imports from 1 January 2022.

The announcement came after a domestic consultation process was initiated in September 2021 to consider changes to UK wine legislation to remove the burdensome and costly requirement.

The Chief Executive of Australia Grape & Wine, Tony Battaglone said "This was an important issue raised in the context of the Free Trade Agreement negotiations with the United Kingdom and demonstrates how technical issues can be resolved through strong partnerships."

"This is a very welcomed announcement and we congratulate the UK government on its forward thinking and efforts to promote the wine trade into the future."

"The UK has been one of Australia's most important markets, representing one of the largest export destinations for Australian wine for decades. This long-standing trade relationship has thrived for many years and is now more important than ever for the Australian wine sector as it recovers from the challenges of 2020."

Mr Battaglone noted "We look forward to strengthening our relationships with the UK wine industry and government to streamline and grow trade with the UK into the future."

The UK is a major global importer of wine, importing just under 1.5 billion litres of wine, valued at over \$US 4 billion in 2020. It is also Australia's largest wine export market by volume and second largest by value and one that is continuing to grow, up 16 per cent in volume and 23 per cent in value during the 2020-21 financial year.

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#### About Australian Grape and Wine Inc

Australian Grape and Wine Inc is the national association of grape and wine producers. We address issues across the supply-chain that impact on the profitability and sustainability of the sector. We lead and advocate public policy that enhances the ability to responsibly produce, promote and enjoy Australian wine in moderation.

Australian Grape & Wine is recognised as a representative organisation for winegrape and wine producers under the Wine Australia Act 2013, and is incorporated under the SA Associations Incorporation Act 1985. We work in partnership with the Australian Government to develop and implement policy that is in the best interests of winegrape growers and winemakers across Australia.