

Australian Grape and Wine Inc Board Communique

26 June 2024, Canberra.

On Wednesday 26 June 2024 the Board of Australian Grape & Wine met in Canberra. The June Board meeting followed on from meetings of each of the membership committees, which met virtually on Monday 24 June 2024.

During the meeting, among other things, the Board:

- recognised the Australian Government's recently announced \$3.5 million *Grape and Wine Sector Long-term Viability Support Package*. While Australian Grape & Wine welcomed the investment, the Board reaffirmed its commitment to working with Federal and State Governments, in partnership with state industry associations, to seek more substantial assistance to that will address the immediate supply and demand issues facing the industry, in line with our Pre-Budget Submission released earlier this year.
- committed to strengthening the process for appointing members to technical advisory committees and improving the linkages between these committees and the Board and membership committees. In doing so, a range of criteria will be considered in appointing future committee members, including striking the right balance of skills, experience and diversity of gender, background, geography and business type.
- agreed to recommend that to be a member of Sustainable Winegrowing Australia, those purchasing winegrapes should be signatories to the Code of Conduct for Winegrape Purchases.
- reaffirmed the need to address issues relating to the proposed inclusion of wine bottles in Container Deposit Schemes (CDS) in states and territories around Australia. This work will continue to be progressed, working with state wine industry associations and other stakeholders.
- discussed the importance of ensuring Australian wine exporters to China are well-supported by Australian Grape & Wine, Wine Australia and the Australian Government in the event they encounter barriers to trade.
- approved Australian Grape & Wine's budget for the 2024-25 Financial year.

The next Board meeting will be held in Adelaide on 4 September 2024.

Lee McLean
Chief Executive
5 July 2024