

**Meat Industry Reference Committee**  
**Communique – Meeting held on 22 October 2019**

The Meat Industry Reference Committee held a full meeting at the Mantra Legends Hotel in Surfers Paradise, Queensland. Eleven members attended the IRC meeting, two members tendered their apologies.

The IRC was updated on the status of the AMP Australian Meat Processing Training Package, Release 4.0, which was approved in September, and provided with an update on the progress of four new training package projects which are currently underway for the next Release of AMP.

The *AMP30416 Certificate III in Meat Processing (Rendering)* was discussed. Despite continuing low enrolments, the IRC reaffirmed the continuing industry need for the qualification, as well as recommending further consultation be undertaken to determine if the qualification should be reviewed or if there is a need to develop Skills Sets in this area.

Nicole Orr who held the Poultry Processing Expert position has resigned from the Committee and IRC members were invited to suggest suitable applicants for the vacancy.

Sixteen new matters raised on the Enquiries and Issues Register were addressed and actions determined.

The Meat IRC Satisfaction Survey Report was noted. No issues were identified.

All AMP units with fewer than ten enrolments over the last four years were examined and discussed. The main explanations for low or no enrolments included:

- small but critical job roles with low levels of turnover
- market fluctuations, e.g. the current hides and skins market
- lack of awareness, particularly newly developed units
- units directly related to market access or regulatory requirements – so while they may reflect low enrolment numbers removing them could have serious implications
- units are used as benchmarks for in-house training and no enrolment data is recorded.

The IRC also examined AMP unit and qualifications commencements and completions during the past four years.

The date for the next meeting was agreed and will be held on 18 December 2019 in Sydney, venue to be advised.