

# PIRSA

## **SA Livestock Sustainable Solutions Program - Producer Group Guidelines**

March 2026



**Government of South Australia**  
Department of Primary Industries  
and Regions

# Sustainable Solutions Producer Group Guidelines

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## All enquiries

Climate Change Unit

Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA)

Level 21, 11 Waymouth Street

GPO Box 1671, Adelaide SA 5001

Email: [Pirsa.climatechange@sa.gov.au](mailto:Pirsa.climatechange@sa.gov.au)

[www.pir.sa.gov.au](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au)

# 1. Purpose

The Livestock Sustainable Solutions Program will provide support to new or existing livestock producer groups (Sustainable Solutions Producer Groups) to assist them to upskill South Australian sheep and cattle producers (Producers) to harness sustainable practices for industry-specific improvements. Sustainable Solutions Producer Groups should aim to enhance Producers' awareness, knowledge, and practical application of livestock emissions baselining and on-farm mitigation strategies, while supporting them to implement sustainable solutions through peer-to-peer learning and experiences.

Funding provided to Sustainable Solutions Producer Groups will support Producers to:

- complete an on-farm emissions baseline, utilising existing tools and calculators available in the market
- explore sustainable mitigation strategies and share experiences
- monitor their emission profiles
- make informed decisions that align with their productivity and sustainability goals
- implement emissions related practice changes and develop an on-farm action plan to increase knowledge and awareness in this space
- learn from experts on how sustainable mitigation strategies can assist to improve productivity, efficiency and profitability
- implement and apply technology in their business enterprise to improve productivity, efficiency and profitability
- attend and participate in program specific field days and events

Eligible applicants can apply for funding up to \$20,000 (GST exclusive). The SA Livestock Sustainable Solutions Program - Producer Groups will conclude by 31 December 2028. Project activities are to be conducted in South Australia. Applications will close 11:59pm (ACST) Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

# 2. Who is eligible to apply?

To apply to be a Sustainable Solutions Producer Group all the following conditions must be met:

- The applicant group must be South Australian based with members who run a commercial sheep, wool or beef business in South Australia
- Individual producers seeking to join a group must be based in South Australia, operate a commercial sheep, wool, or beef enterprise within the state, and meet all other applicable eligibility requirements.
- The applicant must hold an active Australian Business Number (ABN) and be registered for GST.
- The applicant must be a legal entity capable of entering into a funding agreement with PIRSA.
- All project activities must be completed in South Australia.
- Members of the applicant group must not be employed by PIRSA.
- All members of the applicant group must be willing to commit to calculating their own emissions baseline before the conclusion of the grant period.

- All members of the applicant group must be interested in implementing and exploring at least one sustainable management practice or technology on their farm.
- The applicant group must have a desire to contribute to a state-wide effort to demonstrate how emissions management can align with improved farm efficiency and profitability.
- Members of the applicant group must commit to attending at least one of PIRSA's six sustainable demonstration site field days or relevant events.

### 3. Eligible Activities

*Activities which are eligible include:*

- Engaging a facilitator to undertake the delivery of the Producer Group activities.
- Obtaining expert advice or support in undertaking on farm emissions baselining.
- Attending workshops/ field days that support the upskilling of members in mitigation strategies, technologies and data-based decision making related to emissions.
- Purchase of technology products or digital services for trial by members of the producer group in line with the intended goals and outcomes of the project.
- Engaging an expert speaker to address the group.
- Travel associated with the conduct of a field study.
- Travel for group facilitator.
- Catering and venue hire for group events (reasonable costs only).
- Creation, including printing, of resources for the group.

*Activities which are not eligible for funding include:*

- Activities undertaken prior to approval of application for funding.
- Costs associated with the preparation of an application for funding.
- Research into new technologies and development of products.
- Infrastructure development or on-farm equipment purchases.

Please note that the above lists of activities are not exhaustive. For any questions regarding eligible or ineligible activities please email [Pirsa.climatechange@sa.gov.au](mailto:Pirsa.climatechange@sa.gov.au).

### 4. How do I apply?

Applicants must submit through PIRSA's SA Livestock Sustainable Solutions Program – Producer Groups expression of interest online portal available at:

<https://mypirsa.pir.sa.gov.au/service/SA%20Livestock%20Sustainable%20Solutions%20Program%20-%20Producers%20Group>

Applications not completed via the online form will not be accepted. **Please be aware once you have started an online form you will not be able to save your application, and your expressions of interest will be deleted.**

Applications must be lodged by no later than 11:59pm (ACST) Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026, unless an extension by PIRSA is announced prior to that date. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Upon submitting the online Application form, you will be provided with an application receipt number. This number should be used when contacting PIRSA with any questions or clarifications.

PIRSA aims to advise applicants of the outcomes approximately 4 weeks from the closing date.

## 5. Application Details

The online form requires the applicant to identify whether the applicant is:

- an individual producer wanting to join a producer group
- a member of an existing group with a facilitator
- a member of an existing group without a facilitator
- an individual/entity forming a new group with a facilitator
- an individual/entity forming a new group without a facilitator

Information requested in the online application form will depend on what type of applicant has been selected and depend on which section you are completing. Information may consist of:

### 1. Applicant details

Applicants contact details, applicant legal name, ABN.

### 2. Producer Group details

Group name, number of members, industry type.

### 3. Key Contact Details

Contact details.

### 4. Producer group further detail

Member details, enterprise type and sustainable experience, group sustainability interests, technology interest.

## 5. Project design

Proposed timeline (start and end date), description of activities, itemised budget for running of producer group and justification of cost.

## 6. Facilitator details

Facilitator's contact details, qualification and training and experience.

## 7. Supporting documents

Delivery plan, session plans for activities, details of technical experts and facilitator CV.

**The Applicant is accountable for overseeing the group and ensuring all deliverables are met, unless a facilitator is appointed.**

# 6. Assessment Panel

After the application period closes the assessment panel will evaluate all applications based on the information provided. The evaluation criteria that group applications will be assessed on are:

- Level of Producer Engagement (Producer groups with at least eight producer's participating will be seen more favourably)
- Presence of a facilitator being appointed for the group
- Experience of facilitator in similar groups, project etc.
- Range of experience of members (enterprise types, production systems, experience with sustainable initiatives)
- Delivery Plan (sustainable areas of interest and range of proposed upskilling activities within the time frame)
- Willingness to conduct annual emissions baselines on members farms (if not previously completed)
- An interest in exploring sustainability goals; no prior knowledge or experience is required
- Willingness to share learnings at an on-farm event arranged by PIRSA (e.g. field day) and through extension materials (e.g. case study) if required.
- Willingness to attend at least one of PIRSA's six sustainable demonstration site field days.
- Commitment to annual collection of sustainability survey data throughout the project
- Compliance with all SA Animal Welfare and Biosecurity regulations (including the use of eID tags)

## 7. Feedback to applicants

All applicants will be advised of the outcome of their funding application. Successful applicants will be sent a formal letter of approval and may be asked to assist PIRSA in the preparation of public announcements.

PIRSA will develop a formal funding agreement with the applicant that meets the requirements of the SA Livestock Sustainable Solutions Program.

A letter to a successful applicant will not constitute a binding obligation to provide funding and should not create any expectation on the part of the applicant to receive funding until a legally binding agreement has been executed by both parties. PIRSA may request applicants provide additional information.

## 8. Successful applicants

Successful applicants will be required to enter into a funding agreement with PIRSA which will outline all the conditions of the provision of funding.

Successful applicants will be expected to meet all terms and conditions of the funding agreement, including governance and reporting requirements. Applicants must comply with all applicable Commonwealth and State legislation, regulations and codes in the delivery of the funded project.

## 9. Reporting

Facilitators and producer groups will be required to undertake reporting, monitoring, and planning activities as part of the funding agreement. This will include progress reporting, surveys, and the development of group and individual on-farm action plans. PIRSA will provide all required templates and full details of these responsibilities within the funding agreement.

## 10. Confidentiality

PIRSA will handle all personal information provided to it in connection with this program in accordance with the Information Privacy Principles set out in [Premier and Cabinet Circular 012 - Information Privacy Principles Instruction](#).

Applicants should be aware that any information provided is subject to the provisions of the [Freedom of Information Act 1991](#) and that PIRSA will consult with affected parties before releasing confidential information relating to them. Assessors contracted by PIRSA to evaluate applications will be bound by non-disclosure agreements.

## 11. Media releases

PIRSA intends to issue public media releases highlighting details of successful applications. Applicants will be consulted prior to any releases being made.

## 12. More information

For more information visit: <https://pir.sa.gov.au/regions-and-support/apply-for-funding/livestock-sustainable-solutions-program-producer-group>

To discuss your application contact:

Ashley Balsom, Climate Change Project Officer

Major Programs and Regions, Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA)

Level 21, 11 Waymouth Street

GPO Box 1671, Adelaide SA 5001

Mobile: 0448 259 530

Email: [Pirsa.climatechange@sa.gov.au](mailto:Pirsa.climatechange@sa.gov.au)

## 13. Other matters

**Acceptance of funding under this program may have financial, taxation (including GST and income tax), legal or other implications for the funding recipient. It is strongly recommended applicants seek independent financial, legal and taxation advice prior to accepting an offer of funding.**