



Chair Report Cost Recovery Implementation Committee (CRIC)

22 January 2026

Dear Stakeholders,

On 22 January 2026, the **Cost Recovery Implementation Committee (CRIC)** held its thirteenth meeting to discuss the draft reports of the Benchmarking of PIRSA's Fisheries and Aquaculture Science and Compliance programs, along with a discussion on digitisation.

Aquaculture Science and Compliance

The CRIC reviewed the aquaculture report and agreed to enhance the clarity and structure of the recommendations by organising them into three categories: science, compliance, and general/strategic.

This approach will ensure that key recommendations are clearly identified for government consideration, while broader industry feedback is captured as general recommendations to inform future strategic planning and sector development.

Fisheries Science and Compliance

The CRIC expressed satisfaction with the Fisheries Science and Compliance Reports, noting that they were thorough, well-prepared, and consistent with the Terms of Reference.

Digitisation

The CRIC discussed the ongoing progress with the digitalisation program, noting that their efforts are consistent with previous recommendations and industry expectations.

The focus is on finalising benchmarking activities, after which the results will be submitted to the Minister and government for consideration.

The group agreed that following the completion of benchmarking, they will revisit any outstanding recommendations to ensure all necessary actions are addressed before preparing a summary report to close out the State Government embraced recommendations presented by the Independent Cost Recovery Review Panel (ICRRP).

Next Steps

The CRIC has agreed on the following **key actions** to move forward:

1. Discussion on the upcoming fee-setting process for 2026–27
2. The CRIC to review the State Government embraced recommendations to identify any remaining recommendations that still need to be addressed.

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The thirteenth CRIC meeting focused on advancing the finalisation of the draft reports of the Benchmarking of PIRSA's Fisheries and Aquaculture Science and Compliance programs, with an emphasis on clear and categorised recommendations to align with the terms of reference. Once the final report is finalised, the CRIC will submit to the Minister for consideration.

The next CRIC meeting is scheduled for **February 2026**, and any further meetings with the benchmarking consultants will be covered.

For more information relating to the Independent Cost Recovery Review and the latest from the CRIC, including the Committee's terms of reference, please visit the [PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture independent cost recovery review webpage](#).

Sincerely,

Mr Brian Jeffriess

CRIC Independent Chair