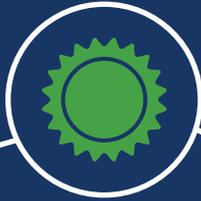


# 2017 VICTOR HARBOR AGRIBUSINESS SURVEY

## Key Findings Report



## BACKGROUND

The City of Victor Harbor created the Agribusiness Reference Group in March 2016 as a mechanism to be informed about issues and opportunities facing the agribusiness and rural community.

The group comprises local farmers and those participating in agribusiness enterprises and who have a keen interest in growing and sustaining agricultural activity within the region.

Agriculture and food production has been earmarked as a growth industry given its position as a fundamental human need and a growing appetite globally for the supply of clean and green food.

With 94% of the City of Victor Harbor total land area, allows for some form of agribusiness activity, while favourable climatic conditions and the longer term outlook for food production, positions Victor Harbor and the Southern Fleurieu Peninsula well to derive economic benefit.

## Survey Objectives :

The Agribusiness Survey has been specifically designed to improve stakeholder understanding of :

- The nature, extent and performance of local agribusinesses
- Constraints for sustaining and growing rural and agricultural enterprises
- The extent of confidence and likelihood of investment in rural enterprises
- Seminar and training opportunities that align with agribusiness needs

Responses and key findings from the survey are intended to be used to inform local and regional decision making related to the sector.

## SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The 2017 Agribusiness Survey was circulated on the 9th March with responses sought by 22nd March 2017.

Correspondence including a covering letter and survey was circulated to 486 property owners within the rural areas. A further 55 notices were sent via email to farmers included on the Council's agribusiness database, with links to an electronic online survey portal (Survey Monkey).

Survey findings were tabled at the March and April Agribusiness Reference Group meetings for discussion with final key findings collated and analysed by Council staff.

A full copy of the 2017 survey questions can be found in Appendix A of this report.

# AGRIBUSINESS TYPE

Agribusinesses were asked to select the nature of their farming / rural enterprise.

54 responses were received.

■ Full-time primary producer	48.1%
■ Part-time primary producer	31.5%
■ Full-time value-added producer	5.6%
■ Hobby farmer	14.8%

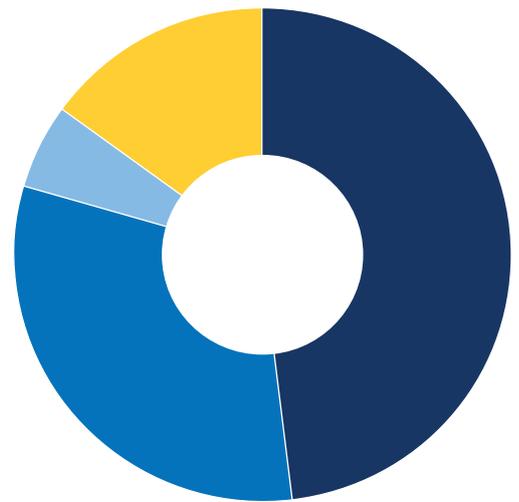
**COMMENTARY:** Only 54% of respondents indicated that they were using their land for full time farming activity.

*NOTE:* A full list of responses can be referred to in Appendix B.



# 48%

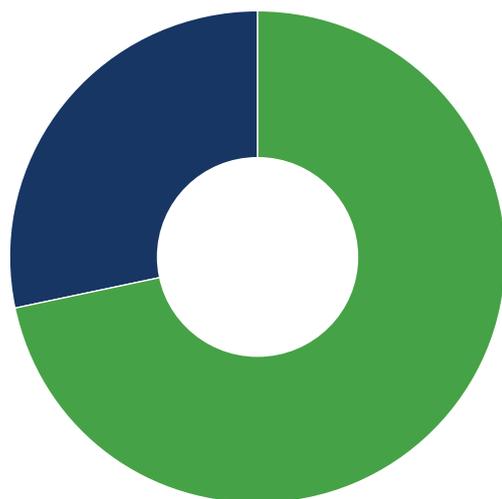
OF RESPONDENTS WERE FULL-TIME PRIMARY PRODUCERS.



# ON FARM LIVING

Agribusinesses were asked if they lived on their rural property.

60 responses were received.



# 71%

OF RESPONDENTS INDICATED THEY LIVED ON THEIR RURAL PROPERTY.

■ Yes	71.7%
■ No	28.3%

**COMMENTARY:** Nearly 30% of property owners indicated that they did not reside on the property which is consistent with responses to the previous question relating to Agribusiness Type.

*NOTE:* A full list of responses can be referred to in Appendix B.

# NATURE OF FARMING

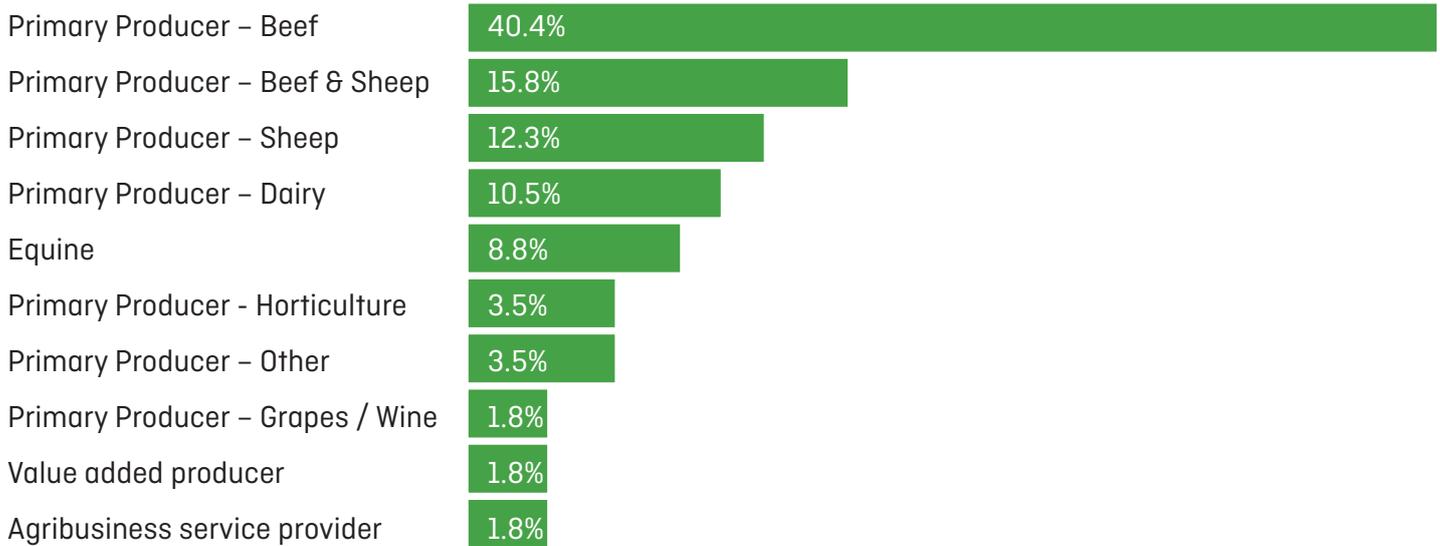
Agribusinesses were asked to which industry sub category their business / operation belongs.

*57 responses were received.*



# 40%

OF RESPONDENTS WERE BEEF  
PRIMARY PRODUCERS.



**COMMENTARY:** Meat production continues to be a significant agricultural activity with over 68% of respondents indicating that they were farming either beef or sheep. Dairy farming, although only representing 10.5% of responses remains a significant economic contributor, given the scale of operations.

*NOTE: A full list of responses can be referred to in Appendix B.*

# AGRIBUSINESS PERFORMANCE

Agribusinesses were asked how their farm business had performed over the last 12 months, relative to the previous 12 months.

*57 responses were received.*

## RECENT



**COMMENTARY:** The majority of respondents indicated that their farm business performed 'About the Same' compared with the previous 12 months.

## LEGEND

 Much Stronger & Somewhat Stronger

 About the Same

 Much Weaker & Somewhat Weaker

Agribusinesses were asked how they expected their farm business to perform over the next 12 months compared with the previous 12 months.

*57 responses were received.*

## PROJECTED



**COMMENTARY:** When compared with the previous question there has been a distinct shift from 'Much weaker & Somewhat Weaker' to 'About the Same'. This would suggest that farmers are a little more optimistic about the forward 12 months.

*NOTE: A full list of responses can be referred to in Appendix B.*

# GROWTH CONSTRAINTS

Agribusinesses were asked what they felt were the major constraints on growth and sustainability of their farm business.

*54 responses were received.*



# 72%

OF RESPONDENTS INDICATED RISING OVERHEADS AND UTILITY COSTS WERE THE MAJOR GROWTH CONSTRAINTS



**COMMENTARY:** Rising Overheads and Utility Costs (72%) have been identified as the most constraining event on the their farming business, followed by Taxes & Government charges (57%). 33% of respondents indicated that the Increasing Presence of Weeds and Competing Grazing were a significant constraint, with a number comments provided to that affect.

*NOTE: The question allowed businesses to select multiple options.*

# AGRIBUSINESS VIABILITY

Agribusinesses were asked what would make a difference to the profitability and viability of their business.

*53 responses were received.*

## Common Responses:

- Improved weed control measures
- Access to a regional abattoir / meat works
- A reduction in government charges
- Less government red & green tape
- A reduction in energy costs
- Equitable market access
- Fewer Limitations around the clearing of vegetation
- Less regulation relating to water licensing

**COMMENTARY:** Farmers indicated that increasing constraints on their ability to farm through increasing regulation and government taxes along with access to markets that deliver fair pricing for farm gate products.

*NOTE: A full list of responses can be referred to in Appendix B*



# ASSISTANCE ROLE

Agribusinesses were asked what role they felt the council had in assisting the sector.

*53 responses were received.*

## Common Responses:

- Greater level of weed control on Council land
- Management of roadsides
- Either a reduction or freeze of Council rates
- Management of road infrastructure
- Sensible application of regulations
- Preservation of rural areas for farming activity
- Engagement with rural community

**COMMENTARY:** There was an emerging theme around weed control activities, Council rates, excessive regulation and improved road infrastructure

*NOTE: A full list of responses can be referred to in Appendix B*

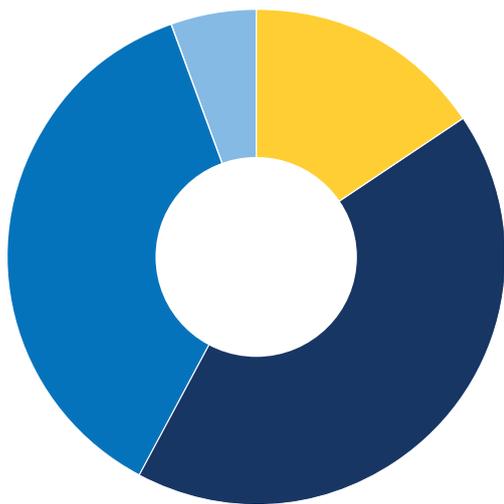


A NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS INDICATED THAT WEEDS & WEED CONTROL WOULD ASSIST SECTOR

# FUTURE VISION

Agribusiness were asked how optimistic they were about the future of their business within the region.

57 responses were received.



Less than optimistic	15.8%
Neutral	42.1%
Optimistic	36.8%
Very Optimistic	5.3%

**COMMENTARY:** 79% of respondents indicated either 'Neutral' (42.1%) or 'Optimistic' (36.8%) when asked how optimistic there were about the future of their business in the region. Only 15.8% of responses indicated 'Less than optimistic'



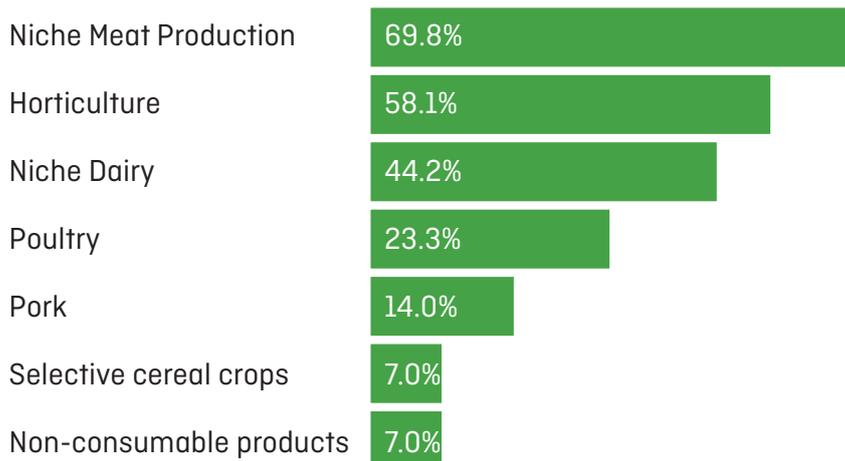
# 42%

OF RESPONDENTS EITHER HAVE AN OPTIMISTIC OR VERY OPTIMISTIC FUTURE OUTLOOK

# MARKET FORCES

Agribusinesses were asked which sectors would thrive given complimentary market forces.

43 responses were received.



# 70%

OF RESPONDENTS FELT THAT THE NICHE MEAT PRODUCTION SECTOR WOULD THRIVE IN THE REGION GIVEN COMPLIMENTARY MARKET FORCES

**COMMENTARY:** 70% of those surveyed believed that 'Niche Meat Production' while 44% of responses indicated that 'Niche Dairy' would thrive in the region. This would be consistent with current farming activity in the region.

58% felt that Horticulture would thrive in the region.

# SEMINAR TOPICS

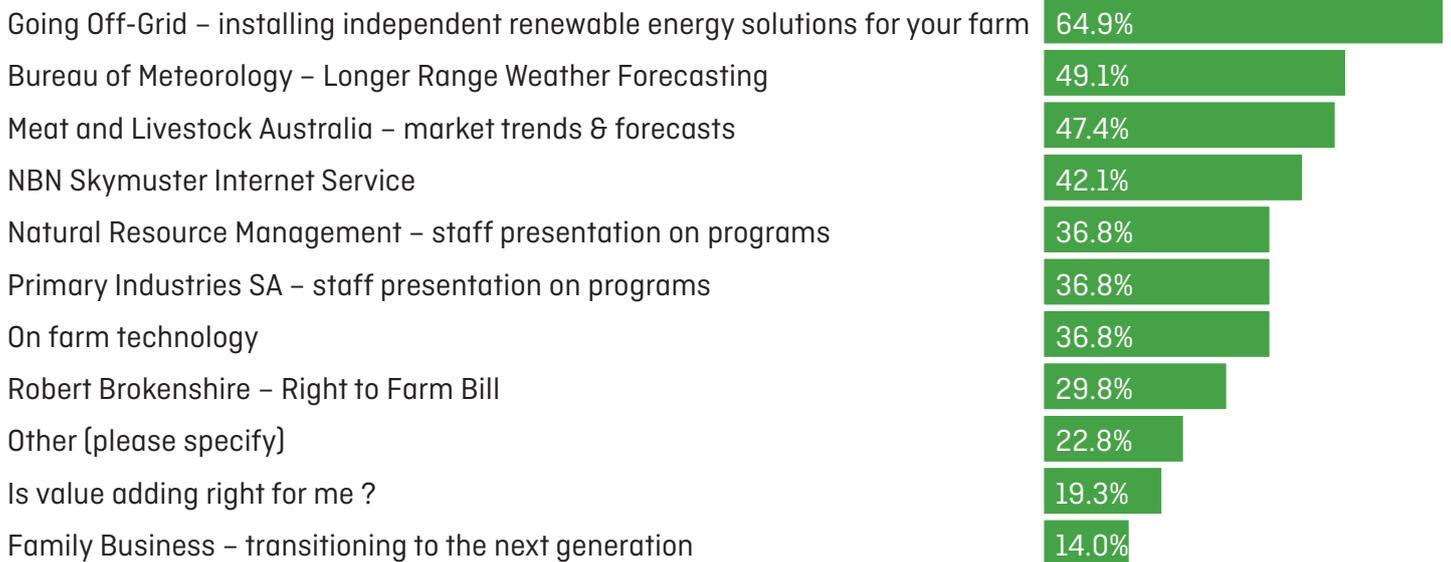
Agribusinesses were asked which seminar or speaker topic would be valuable.

*57 responses were received.*



# 65%

OF RESPONDENTS INDICATED GOING OFF GRID WOULD BE A VALUABLE SEMINAR



**COMMENTARY:** The top 4 responses were Going Off Grid, Bureau of Meteorology, Meat & Livestock Australia and NBN Skymuster Internet Services.

*NOTE: The question allowed businesses to select multiple options.*

# TRAINING CONVENIENCE

Agribusinesses were asked the most convenient time for holding seminars and guest speakers.

*55 responses were received.*



29%

OF RESPONDENTS INDICATED THAT MID MORNING WOULD BE MOST CONVENIENT TIME





## 2017 Victor Harbor Agribusiness Survey

### City of Victor Harbor Agribusiness Survey

#### Why are we doing this ?

The City of Victor Harbor's Agribusiness Reference Group are seeking to gain a clearer understanding of the challenges and opportunities that face local primary producers and Agribusiness stakeholders through information collected within this survey.

The data gathered from the survey will be used by the Agribusiness Reference Group to advise the Council of areas of need and strategic opportunity for agriculture.

The business survey is completely anonymous and there is no mandatory requirement to identify your name and or business.

#### Survey Objectives :

1. Undertake a local Agribusiness Situation Analysis.
2. Understand impediments to sustaining and growing agribusiness activity in the region.
3. Ensure that decisions of the Council are informed through an understanding of needs and challenges faced by the agri business sector.

1. What is the nature of your farming / rural enterprise ?

- Full-time primary producer
- Part-time primary producer
- Full-time value-added producer
- Part-time value-added producer
- Hobby farmer

Other (please specify)

2. To which industry sub category does your business / operation belong ?

- Primary Producer – Beef
- Primary Producer – Sheep
- Primary Producer – Beef & Sheep
- Primary Producer – Dairy
- Primary Producer – Grapes / Wine
- Primary Producer - Horticulture
- Primary Producer – Other
- Value added producer
- Agribusiness service provider
- Equine

Other (please specify)

3. Do you live on your rural property ?

- YES
- NO

4. How has your farm business performed over the last 12 months ?

- Much Weaker
- Somewhat Weaker
- About the Same
- Somewhat Stronger
- Much Stronger

5. How do you believe your farm business will perform over the next 12 months ?

- Much Weaker
- Somewhat Weaker
- About the Same
- Somewhat Stronger
- Much Stronger

6. What are the major constraints on the growth and sustainability of your farm business ?

- Rising overheads and utility costs
- Taxes and Government Charges
- Government Licensing and Regulations
- Cost of Freight
- Rising Production Costs
- Impacts of Climate Change
- Increasing presence of weeds & competing grazing
- Nearing retirement with no or unlikely family transition
- High debt and access to capital
- Proximity of Abattoir
- Attracting skilled labour
- Lack of market competition placing downward pressure on farm gate prices
- Difficulty in finding new markets for my products

Other (please specify)

7. What would make a difference to the profitability and viability of your farming business ?

8. What role do you see as the role of the Council in assisting the agribusiness sector ?

9. How optimistic are you about the future of farming / Agribusiness in the region ?

- Less than optimistic
- Neutral
- Optimistic
- Very Optimistic

10. What agribusiness industry sectors would thrive in the region given complimentary market forces ?

- Poultry
- Pork
- Niche Meat Production
- Niche Dairy
- Horticulture
- Selective cereal crops
- Non-consumable products

Other (please specify)

11. Which of the following seminars and speaker topics would you find valuable ?

- Bureau of Meteorology – Longer Range Weather Forecasting
- Natural Resource Management – staff presentation on programs
- Primary Industries SA – staff presentation on programs
- Meat and Livestock Australia – market trends & forecasts
- On farm technology
- Family Business – transitioning to the next generation
- Robert Brokenshire – Right to Farm Bill
- Going Off-Grid – installing independent renewable energy solutions for your farm
- NBN Skymuster Internet Service
- Is value adding right for me ?
- Other (please specify)

12. If seminars and guest speaker events were to be held, which of the following times would be most suited to your situation ?

- Breakfast
- Mid Morning
- Over Lunch
- Mid Afternoon
- Before Dinner

# APPENDIX B

## What is the nature of your farming / rural enterprise?

### *Other (please specify)*

• Shearing Contractors (sheep) • Bushland / old paddocks with no stock • I'm neither a primary producer or rural resident • Environment carer • Horse Agistment • Agisting property • Owner of land. Rented to others. • What is your definition of "value-added"? • Full time primary Producer and part time value added producer

## To which industry sub category does your business / operation belong?

### *Other (please specify)*

• Nil • Occasional adjustment of cattle by a lessee of the land. • Environment carer • Cereal cropping irrigation • Beef also • Nil • Minor hay production • Why is there no provision for more than one category? • and free range pork • Accommodation Farm stay

## What are the major constraints on the growth and sustainability of your farm business?

### *Other (please specify)*

• Winery cellar door sales participation by visitors to Victor Harbor. Need for on going in. Victor harbor sales / Marketing promotion. Promote tourist option. • No B-double access increases freight costs • Retirement & family unable to make transition to full time farming because of lack of profitability. • \*too many small businesses competing against each other. accessing small acreage services, such as harrowing, seeding, and spraying services. Al Hire has some of this equipment, but its not maintained and was not available for hire last year. • Council Rates of over \$20,000 are unsustainable, the more land you buy the more rates you pay. PIRSA fees on cottage industries ie Land based Aquaculture has shut our Yabbie business. • Water Aged and absent land owners (including affluent) • Kangaroos • No internet. Next door neighbour refuses to control weeds for over 10 years and nothing has been done. Even though I have confronted the appropriate people (NRM). I have more blackberries, than grass. Not helped by Council not getting rid of road side poisoning of the blackberries, and other weeds. • The NRM who tax us twice (Council levy and I have to pay for my own dam water) & Council rates going up more than inflation. • High price of water (Mains) High price of electricity to run a cool room • Because I'm a small land owner I can't afford to employ labour, all jobs are done by me so the main limiting factor is my health and enthusiasm, anything else is secondary. • None really • Rising costs & the attractive price of land when sold in small allotments makes expansion difficult and retirement attractive. • The general detachment from reality exhibited by all levels of public policy, which appears determined to continue a broad economic genocide against rural Australia. • Poultry processing plant is 3 hours away. We would like to run organic free range chicken, but the time and cost involved getting to and from the processing facility drastically affects the viability of this enterprise. • Most of the possible constraints listed above are unlikely to be significantly influenced by local government. The "impacts of climate change" are, in reality, irrelevant to our sustainability. What is relevant is the impact of short term climate variability. What are also relevant are politically driven attempts to manage global warming that are creating chaos, not solutions. • Land prices...forced to compete with 'hobby farmers' who buy small holdings of land at inflated prices as no need to make a profit from there "farming business" • lack of water. all catchments taken up by adjacent farmers who subdivided hill blocks like mine but kept all water and no springs on top blocks • No succession planning has been put in place. The money that is invested in our business is not making enough return. We are not a price setters, we are price takers, and that is risky to any business. • Wild dogs, foxes, rabbits

## What would make a difference to the profitability and viability of your farming business?

### *Open-Ended Response*

• Less overheads running costs including government charges • Increase in numbers visiting winery. Which includes cheese sales Hindmarsh Valley Goat Cheeses. Note Hindmarsh Valley Goat Cheeses has been to exhibitor Sydney and Adelaide Shows. • Genuine competition for milk. Transparency in pricing. Reduce red tape. Government fees / charges. B-double access. • Diversification Value-adding • Neighbours supporting weed control and pasture regrowth. • Sustained good returns for sheep, lambs, wool & beef. There are no guarantees returns will stay at current levels. Cheaper fertiliser & fencing material would make a big difference. I think the native vegetation council has far too much power. While I support restrictions on clearance of trees and scrub, I think a farmer should be able to control rushes and bracken fern on grazing & farming land (but not in swamps) without any restrictions. • A greater understanding by the wider community of the science and necessary farming practices that are required by primary producers. • Certainty in the market from one year to the next so that real plans can be made for the near future. • Less taxes and rates for primary production NRM hikes More control on monopolies ie Thomas Meats and their dominance on slaughterhouses • Local meatworks Multiple use of farmland - eg Tourist Activities • Improved roadways Cheaper electrical power / reliable power service Re-establish Myponga abattoir • A reduction in the valuer generals valuation of rural properties used for grazing and cropping. Valuations to be based on the soil type and stock carrying capacity and not on sales of adjoining properties not being used for grazing or cropping, for example land being subdivided. Why is view added on to valuations? • Stock grazing a property are interested only in the feed and water available on that property and don't worry about the view, whatever that is. The VG's valuation is used by Council for rates, to a VG reduction would

mean a reduction in rates. Paying over \$2,000 per year in Council rates and getting 200 metres of gravel road from the main road graded once in 6 years is pretty hard to swallow. • Tax costs & electricity are always topical, we have removed 30 acres of premium vines due to high production costs and lower prices - unsustainable • Help with calculating irrigation requirements of horticultural crops for water licensing purposes • Nothing to add • Relief from council rates for productive agricultural businesses as opposed to non-productive lifestyle blocks. • If we were being paid a fair and equitable price which reflects the quality product which we produce. • Having a water license for irrigation. • I • Skilled Labour/or anyone that wants a job other than on welfare dependency. • Councils cutting the waiting time for approvals by 1000% • Lowering the above • N/A • Less kangaroos and less capeweed and blackberries • Weed control • Regular rainfall VHC making area cat and fox free with the use of Marama dogs for all rural properties and parks. Making VHC ready for Fleurieu World Heritage listing. Rabbits as well. • Less red tape Cheaper input costs Cheaper rates, taxes and fees • Better pastures • Energy cost Cost of compliance Sensible environmental laws Input costs impact by high Australian cost of doing business compared to overseas competitors • Holding rates to world competitive standard based on the beef industry • Reduced rates Permit two houses on a property • Consistent season re rainfall • Lower Council rates. Lower ESL • Removal of neighbours & Council's roadside blackberries. Help with Council rates. • Less green and red tape. • Lower costs of production eg water and electricity • Less regulation; reduced council rates • To \_\_\_ more land & run greater numbers with similar input costs. • Lower input costs Market (beef) prices need to stay the same • As far as profitability goes, not much, as I have said, I do all the work so my overheads with labour are non existent. Other inputs are influenced by larger factors than Council can control and are generally keeping pace with prices paid. If I could access someone with experience who could keep an eye on the livestock for short periods of times (1-7 days). I would probably make use of them, that would probably extend how long I intend to keep doing this (farming). • N/A • Removal of government constraints, NRM, water licencing, vegetation clearance • 1.Financial recognition of retained native vegetation 2. The ability to selectively clear native vegetation 3. Fresh underground water 4. Ability to construct dam with 4 metre wall height and collect surface run off without fear of NRM • Fiscal recognition that primary industry is called that for a reason. Farmers are not as expendable as hairdressers, they are the middlepeople between nature and the supermarket; forget that at your peril. A price on carbon and ecological services. • Reducing the red tape .... less restrictions on what we can and can't do on our rural zoned land. • Reducing input costs • good milk prices above cost of production • Simply, consistently higher returns combined with less red tape and constraints to employing local people. • Get rid of stamp duty on land bought for legitimate farming purposes(as opposed to hobby farmers) Tighter controls on Forestry SA and their lack of maintenance of boundary & roadside fencing. • Reducing Rates and Taxes • water • Depends on what the weather does!!! • Reduced regulation and more options for selling product • Local meatworks, Multiple use of farmland - eg Tourist Activities • Lower fertiliser & re-pastering costs. Reduction of kangaroo population • Lower land values in our district so that farmers could increase their farm size. However the reverse is more likely with land values climbing. • Elimination / better control of vermin.

## What role do you see as the role of the Council in assisting the agribusiness sector?

### *Open-Ended Response*

• Activity including rural production of products in Council Marketing Promotion. • Council appears to be preoccupied with tourism / tourism infrastructure. Reduce Council rates for commercial farming. Do something about B-double access instead of obstructing it! • Training Facilitating networking between farmers • Weed control of creek / river areas, such as Hindmarsh River • To not be reactionary to minority groups with a specific agenda. • Freeze Rates for those who apply and sit within specific circumstances, so that savings can be made by those that will be using the saving to spend more in the local economy. • Pressure on the State Government to act responsibly and listen in view of regulations and development which hurts every rate and taxpayer...and council ie desal plant, closing Pt Augusta Power station, NRM rates • Consulting with farmers to ensure Council rules & regulation don't negatively impact on farmers. Help reduce rules and red tape imposed on farmers from state government bodies. • Roadworks Lobby state & federal government re electricity supply • Getting back wards would be better, the present system is too concerned with the town area. For present Councilors would be aware of short gravel roads to properties and fire access road, on the condition of them. The spending by Council over a million dollars on Ocean Street will not bring more business to area as the rate on Ocean Street properties are too high for business to prosper. • Complimenting NRM • Valuation of farming land for Council rates are a difficult balance • How about getting better weather reporting for the area. ABC give forecasts for Port Lincoln, Mt Gambier and Adelaide - not accurate for this region. Timing for changes, rainfall, wind etc crucial for irrigators. • Rates / taxes increases. Not excess to CPI • I am very happy with the Victor Harbor Council • Effective supervision and control of increasing weed threat throughout the district. Better maintenance of roads. • Promoting agriculture. Its producers, the region, lobby State Govt, offering incentives to employers or attracting new businesses. • Controlling roadside weeds - blackberries, gorse, bridal veil, watsonia etc. Support care for the native remnant vegetation - assist with fencing of the same. Facilitate appropriate waste disposal. Preserve farming regions for farming, and limit the variation of purpose of rural land (away from farming into industrial purposes such as quarries or manufacturing for example). Support the "right to farm". Have a farming rep on the council. • better roads cheaper rates • none • Clamping down on those who don't control their weeds and thereby infesting our Property, requiring spraying 20 times a year • Road Maintenance past my farm & helping with Weed control • Guidance and support • Assistance in the eradication of the blackberries together with the rejuvenation of the water courses • Supporting weed control • Answering correspondence Roadside weeds, feral trees Co-operative farm (small) management Fire Officer either ignorant or biased Environment dept head in sand re rural areas VHC pride in rural areas and roadsides eg Bridal Veil • Updated information Support when dealing with government departments • Maintaining roads and infrastructure • Streamline cost of compliance Simplicity building rules / application process If every new building must have fire water storage adding up to 40% to cost of building, either lobby stars government to fund it from ESL or abolish it. • Stable governing be mindful of this industry as the town grows into tourism and retirement hub • Provide assistance with weed control. Promote tourism in association with local farming activities Promote secondary activity on farms such as weekender development on larger properties (greater than 50ha) • Non • To lobby for reductions in government taxes and charges, licensing and regulations - Pressure to

eliminate black spots - still have no internet access or mobile phone access, TV reception very limited. • Not just say they will do something but actually do the work. • Don't put my rates up more than CPI. Don't pay your office employees exorbitant wages. A CEO doesn't deserve over \$200,000 a year, especially when the budget doesn't balance. • Minimal for us • Info on what is best to farm in this area New ideas Run seminars etc • Not sure • To provide satisfactory access, maintain roads, & services and facilitate the timely attention to new applications for infrastructure development. • Keep rules & regulations at a sensible level - The associated costs of compliance to the rules, rates and certification etc - RED TAPE need to be minimised. • Apart from interfering - not much. Already have two layers of government and various boards getting to us to implement their ideals and plans, and if its not that, its some other levy to pay for something that should come out of the budget and not my profit. • N/A • No response • A good safe road system that did not demolish livestock carriers 2. Recognition that we exist, pay rates & contribute to the economy 3. Establish a ward system of governance • Not much. • Council should be protecting our rights as farmers to farm. Stop urban sprawl. • Don't know • as a conduit for gaining information & speakers • Maintain & enhance rural infrastructure. Lobby for a consistent approach by other levels of government to the provision of energy of all kinds. Lobby for more research/information on long term climate variability at a local scale. • Upkeep of roads. • council wouldn't assist they just take money to spend in the town area. • By keeping council rates on farm land subsidized and not increasing them due to small hobby farms being sold (around working farms) at high prices. Maintaining roads so that livestock/wool etc can be collected safely. • Do not impose more regulations and review those that are in place as to impact on agribusiness growth. • Consulting with farmers to ensure Council rules & regulation don't negatively impact on farmers. Help reduce rules and red tape imposed on farmers from state government bodies. • Keeping sale yard fees down. Help with erosion prevention on sandy paddocks by tree planting, fencing. Weed control in adjoining rented properties. • The encroachment of weeds and pest plants is a constant problem with more and more lifestyle (hobby) farmers coming into the region, & it will only get worse. I say this because many of these folk are not aware which plants are weeds and those that are very serious ones. I believe Council should consider employing a weeds officer like it did some years back. This would not only educate the lifestyle farmers but apply some pressure and encourage long-time primary producers in the district (myself included) to life their game in this area as well. Another factor regarding weed invasion is the dumping of garden waste [ie cuttings, soil etc] on our roadsides & road reserves. A number of problem plants have started from this source. I believe Council should consider making available 'free of charge' a dumping site where this could then be monitored and sprayed periodically as required. If there were no dump fees involved hopefully people would make use of this service & not distribute weeds throughout the district. • Control of dogs

## What agribusiness industry sectors would thrive in the region given complimentary market forces?

*Other (please specify)*

• Niche Dairy : Goat Cheese Production Marketing. Winery cellar door. Cheese sales. • Possibly hemp production for fibre and oil given the right soil type etc • Seed production - from small isolated pockets. • No idea • All forms of agriculture as the region is diverse and on the door step to suburban markets. • Organic Fruit and Vegetables at a reasonable price • Dairy, beef, fish • Niche horticulture • Poultry in particular would thrive as close to processing, ideal climate, good water etc. However, poultry is a non compliant development - ridiculous !! • Fibre hemp • Keep NRM out of it and they all might have a chance • ? • Subtropical Fruit Trees Orchards of a different kind from the adelaide hills or SA • Non listed • You can grow anything in this area, marry that with tourism and some definable Fleurieu logo, and maybe some sort of bricks and mortar market place with access to anyone interested • Research into domestic Kangaroo harvesting • Ecological services. • Hemp • Potential for poultry and pork in niche organic/free range but large scale or intensive problematic due to effluent and smell issues • All could thrive, avoid trying to "pick winners". • All. The Fleurieu Peninsula has the most reliable drought free farming land in South Australia and yet more and more is sold for the most part hobby farming which returns little of value to the region. • any of they would go ahead if there was a market for them. • I think the local area is heading more towards niche areas ie, organic beef, boutique farm businesses etc. With land prices increasing, it's hard to justify large scale farming on such expensive land. I also think that smaller niche farms have a good future in the area as they have easy access to Adelaide and lot of people move to Victor Area for the lifestyle and can afford, and are happy to pay a premium for products. • Could be a future for most of these. • Honey

## Which of the following seminars and speaker topics would you find valuable ?

*Other (please specify)*

• Climate change soil health • When can we expect the next DEPRESSION to start ? It is on the way. • RE: QUESTION 12 , 7pm . • Realistic surveys for politicians and government • Need to define value-adding NB - Whatever the topic the quality of the speaker is most important practical speakers who have lived the topic better than text book presenters • How getting rid of pests and weeds would be a better job for the NRM than harassing farmers who are just trying to make a go of it • Growing Subtropical Fruit Trees • New pastures • Battery technology & wind power generation 2. Farm tourism - how to, regulations & examples • Regenerative farming seminars / Mixed farming seminars • sessions later in week rather than early in the week • Might be of value if done on a regional council scale. Already provided by others eg. Dairy SA • probably none of them, spending money on speakers doesnt help farm income, things like skymuster is a joke the service is pathetic for this day and age. Farmers can access all those topics without council wasting money on them and putting our rates up more. • Pastures for optimum production of beef in Hindmarsh Valley area. Soils