Wine Australia



Wine Australia Annual Report 2025–26

Australian Government

Wine Australia

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, water and community.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.





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Australian Government

Wine Australia

30 September 2026

The Hon. Julie Collins
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister Collins

On behalf of the Directors of Wine Australia, I have the pleasure of submitting the *Annual Report 2025-26* for the year ended 30 June 2026.

This Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the *Wine Australia Act 2013*, section 46 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013,* the Statutory Funding Agreement 2025–2034 and relevant orders.

Our activities and achievements are reported against our *Strategic Plan 2025–2030*, our *Annual Operational Plan 2025-26* and our Portfolio Budget Statements 2025–26.

Yours sincerely



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Australian Government

Wine Australia

Statement made by the Board of Wine Australia

This statement is made by the Board of Wine Australia (as the accountable authority pursuant to section 12 of the *Public Governance Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) in accordance with subsection 16F of the *Public Governance Performance and Accountability Rule 2014* (PGPA Rule).

We, being the undersigned, certify that in our opinion the annual performance statements prepared for Wine Australia for the 2025–26 reporting period in accordance with section 16F of the PGPA Rule:

a) accurately present Wine Australia's performance, and

b) comply with section 39(2) of the PGPA Act.[1]

We confirm that this statement is made by the Wine Australia Board in accordance with a resolution of the Board.

Signed:



Dr Michele Allan AO
Chair of the Board of Wine Australia

22 September 2026

1 Being that they:
- provide information about the entity's performance in achieving its purposes, and
- comply with the requirements prescribed by the PGPA Rule.

Year in review



Chair's Report 2025–26

As I come to the end of my second term as Chair of the Wine Australia Board, it is my pleasure to present this *Annual Report 2025–26* on behalf of the Directors and wider team. It is the first report under the current five-year *Strategic Plan 2025–30* and has a new look and structure to reflect this shift forward.

Continuing challenges and the impetus for change

The Australian wine sector is navigating some of the most challenging market conditions it has experienced in decades. Global wine consumption has been declining, consumer behaviour is changing and cost pressures are increasing, while geopolitical uncertainty, tariffs and market access requirements are also impacting trade.

While we are maintaining our market share in most export markets, all the largest markets show continuing weakness and the pie is shrinking. We are also seeing market diversification play out, with the Southeast Asia group of markets now a similar size to the US in value terms.

On the home front too, the challenges are significant, with persistent stock and structural oversupply. The scale of correction that is needed is evident in the 2026 vintage – now confirmed as the lowest in 25 years and the fourth in a row below the long-term average, suggesting a new normal is upon us.

One Grape & Wine Sector Plan outcomes emerging

While the smaller vintage will certainly help reduce the current oversupply, the risk of an overcorrection – something the Australian sector has seen happen more than once before – is real. This again highlights the long-standing need for more comprehensive and accurate supply data, a key priority identified during the sector consultation for the *One Grape & Wine Sector Plan* (*OGWSP*) in 2023–24.

The resulting National Vineyard Register, due to go live at the end of 2026, will be timely for those growers that might be considering their options. The National Vineyard Register's long-term value will depend on sector participation, and there will be





more information available in October/November 2026 about how growers can help populate the new platform and validate their vineyard data.

Another need highlighted by the sector through the *OGWSP* process was support and options provided for those wishing to exit. Wine Australia investments and responses in this area have included vineyard resting trials and developing disposal and circularity solutions for Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA) vineyard posts.

Over the past year, Wine Australia, Australian Grape & Wine (AGW) and other industry bodies have continued to work together to build on collaborative and co-investment opportunities with state and regional associations arising through the alignment of their strategies and activities with the overarching *OGWSP*. For Wine Australia, the priorities and actions identified through the *OGWSP* are aligned with our mandate in supporting the sector's productivity, profitability and sustainability through research and innovation, market development and regulation. Other projects that have emerged from these priorities include the delivery of a national domestic marketing campaign and the development of a 'Lighter Lifestyle wines' category. Less visibly but just as importantly, longer-term sustainability, market access and market development work continues in parallel to position Australian wine favourably in the minds of regulators, gatekeepers, trade and consumers.

Market development

Market and consumer trends favouring lighter styles, including sparkling, white, rose and lower-alcohol wines, continue to gain traction and this was also reflected in the 2026 national crush data. In this context, moving beyond the big, bold Aussie red stereotype may assist in increasing our market share. Our education events and market activations are regularly showcasing the breadth of our diverse wine regions and promoting a fresh and innovative wine style repertoire, surprising and delighting trade and consumers in international markets.

We continue to allocate our finite market development resources based on market opportunity, impact and after consultation with levy payers and customers in-market. Over the past year the Northern American roadshows have been expanded to visit new cities with more variety in the tasting lineups. The roadshows help existing exporters to build Australia's category footprint across the US and Canada and this expansion will support development of alternative pathways into this challenging and highly competitive market.

In Europe and the UK, successful activations in London, Edinburgh, Dublin, Amsterdam, Hamburg, Antwerp and more have also showcased a variety of our regions and vibrant styles, with master classes regularly booked to capacity. The second outing of Australian wine at Wine Paris in February 2026 was a highlight of the past year, with outstanding pavilion presence, branding and support from our many participating producers to help build the connections with gatekeepers that will lead to increased listings and shelf space in European markets.

Diversification also remains a key part of our market development strategy, and we continue to foster the growth of emerging markets in our region, and dedicate tailored support to others such as Japan, South Korea and the Nordics. Partnering with Austrade and other Research and Development Corporations (RDCs) has helped expand and extend our presence in some of these markets beyond what we can do alone.

The domestic marketing campaign, 'We make a wine for that', which ran nationally in the second half of 2025, gave Australian wine increased visibility in a wide range of retail and hospitality settings and via excellent social media uptake. The campaign's focus on fun consumption occasions and moments that matter aimed to encourage uncommitted consumers to take another look at Australian wine and embrace it in preference to other categories, highlighting the incredible diversity of Australian wine styles and price points available.

Our market insights team continues to provide the evidence and data that we need to underpin business decisions for the Australian grape and wine sector, including a new domestic sales dashboard. Wine Australia is the go-to source for timely, reliable and comprehensive domestic and international data, most of which is freely available on our website and dashboards. All levy payers have access to additional data and analysis support for their business decisions.

Research & Innovation

Ongoing investment in research and innovation is critical to our sector's longevity, productivity, profitability and sustainability. Wine Australia works with a range of research and extension partners to meet the breadth of needs and priorities identified by grape growers and winemakers. Over the past two years, we have laid the groundwork for ensuring the outcomes are delivered in more tailored and local ways to improve extension and adoption outcomes, including establishing a national advisor network and, more recently, newsletters packed with practical information targeted to grape growers (*VitiSnips*) and winemakers (*On the Marc*). Much work over the past few years has also gone into enabling greater impact for levy funding, greater transparency and a more accountable and staged model of research investment, delivering on both Government funding requirements and levy payer expectations.

Through a diverse portfolio of projects and delivery partners across biosecurity, grapevine breeding, lower-alcohol wines, ESG, data/digital and wine production and quality, as well as extension and adoption, Wine Australia continues to support and develop the knowledge, skills and tools the sector needs to meet existing and emerging challenges. The regional and individual leadership development programs we coordinate and/or invest in – Future Leaders, Next Crop and Rootlings – provide support at every level of our diverse sector to ensure its future.

The Australian Wine Research Institute (AWRI) remains our largest research partner, and we continue to fund the sector-critical services and the long-standing capability and particular expertise the AWRI provides. The 2025–26 year saw the negotiation of a new investment agreement for 2026–2030, signed in June following a collaborative process to ensure the right balance of flexibility and security for both parties. The agreement aligns with the priorities of the *OGWSP*, builds a pathway to increase the impact from this research, and allows for increased partner co-investment to leverage Commonwealth matching funding and grow the total amount available.





Regulation and market access

Protecting the reputation of Australian wine is a key function of Wine Australia, and we continue to work closely with the sector to support compliance with regulatory requirements, including the Food Standards Code and labelling laws, for the production, sale and export of Australian wine. In the past year, this responsibility has required the cancellation of an export licence, a relatively rare occurrence. Egregious and repeat offences under these laws risk damaging the standing of Australian wine internationally through adverse media attention, trade and regulatory outcomes, with the potential to severely curtail our collective export aspirations.

Wine Australia's audit and export assistance teams continue to provide guidance, support and advice on a wide range of record keeping, production, labelling and export matters across the sector each year, helping to ensure product integrity and raise awareness of export market requirements.

Our Regulatory Services and market access experts also engage in key international and domestic forums to identify areas to harmonise international trade in wine, while working collaboratively with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), AGW and the AWRI to support trade agreement negotiations and resolve occasional export and customs issues.

2025–26 saw the conclusion of negotations on the Australia–EU Free Trade Agreement and a new Australia–European Union Wine Agreement, delivering some long-awaited certainty and positive outcomes on a range of matters, including the use of the name 'Prosecco'. In addition, the digitisation of export certificate approvals through a significant uplift and investment in the Wine Australia Licence Approval System (WALAS) is now live, marking a step change in the delivery and efficiency of this key regulatory process. This is the first phase of a productivity improvement focus period slated for the regulatory space over the next few years, with a view to minimising red tape and bureaucracy for the sector through more efficient use of data.

Customer engagement

In addition to coordinating annual state and regional engagement meetings around the shared goals of the *OGWSP*, the CEO and GM Customer Engagement maintain regular engagement opportunities and conversations with key partners, stakeholder groups and individual customers. Attending and presenting at webinars, workshops and regional events around the country, our team shared expertise, resources and support services with the widest possible range of customers over the past year.

Throughout 2025–26, we have strengthened our focus on delivering content in value-adding ways that are both meaningful and convenient for customers, along with refreshed digital content and data-driven improvements. The *Lighter Styles* webinar held in May, for example, featured not just the market and consumer insights gained through that research, funded by DAFF as part of the *Long-Term Grape Wine Sector Viability package*, but also the latest technical and regulatory information on the category. Presentations at the AGW Forum in November were tailored to specific questions and issues raised by stakeholders, stepping AGW members through the processes, rationale and governance around key projects and investments of interest.

Work has also been underway on a revamped Wine Australia website, structured to better reflect external users and their questions and needs, as well as future-proofing this asset and significant resource for the sector. In an era of data hacking, AI and increasing cyber-security risks, this investment was seen by our Board as a must-do.

The Customer Engagement team also supports the regional and agtech programs, extension and adoption efforts and Wine Australia's own events, such as the annual Global Market Update.

Business development and strategic investment

The 2025–26 year saw Wine Australia establish the Australian Wine Future Fund (AWFF) to coincide with and support the aims of the *Strategic Plan 2025–30* and drive the sector's R&D levy dollar further. Current and pending investments through the Research & Innovation Fund (RIF) stream total $17.1 million – more than 48% of our five-year target of $35 million.

Governance arrangements are now in place for the Venture Capital part of the Fund and technical due diligence processes are underway to assess startups for potential co-investment of additional and non-levy funds in innovative solutions that can be scaled up and commercialised to return greater value to the sector. A total of $15 million will be invested over the next five years to support the development of tangible tools, products and resources that address some of the problems faced by producers.

The AWFF is expected to achieve additional investment of $50 million for the Australian grape and wine sector by 2030 through a mix of Commonwealth matching, federal and state government grants, and partner investments.

People and culture

The passionate and talented Wine Australia team works hard with a customer-first mindset to support the sector with data, research and innovation, trusted regulatory processes and marketing that brings our world-class product to mind for more consumers, more often.

The annual employee survey showed staff remain highly engaged and motivated (85%), with responsive leadership and a supportive culture, a strong WHS and wellness focus and active psychosocial risk management all helping to provide our team with the tools, resilience and support they need as they in turn support and interact with a sector that is struggling. Professional development during the past year covered workload management and resilience topics, along with tailored leadership training for a selected cohort.

The 2025–26 year also saw the delivery of Wine Australia's Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) in consultation with a diverse range of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and follow-up engagement activities continue to be offered. Wine education sessions have also been available internally for staff who want to improve their knowledge, delivered by our own wine educators.

The organisation

Wine Australia's year ended June 2026 saw an operating surplus of $2.5 million, consisting of reserves drawn down from newly available Commonwealth matching funding. Further analysis of the budget and actuals variances is provided in the Notes section of the Financial Statements in this report.

An independent selection process for two further non-executive directors has recently been conducted, and those appointments have now been approved by the Minister. A new Chair will also be selected by the Minister and announced in due course.



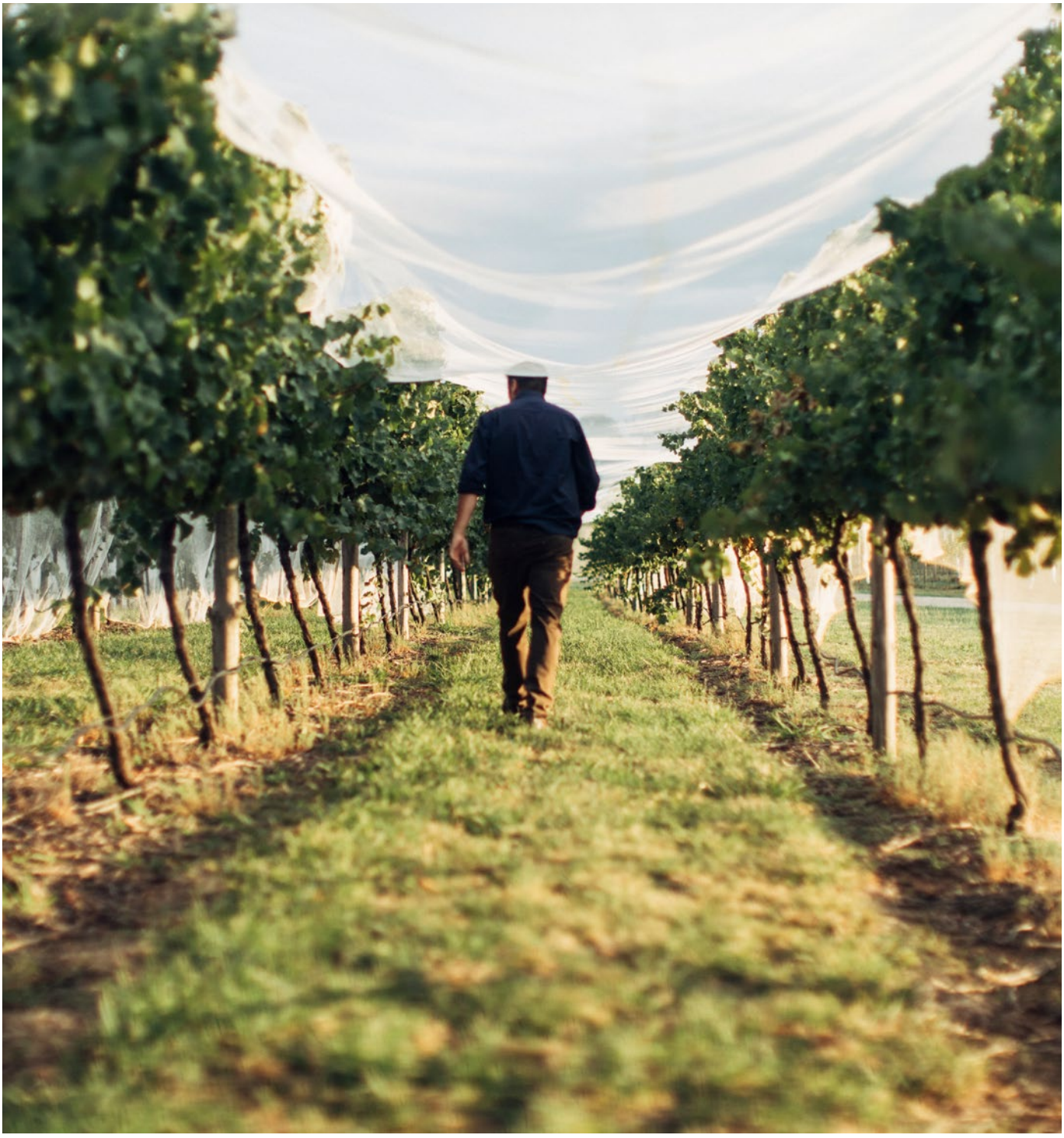
Acknowledgements

In closing I would like to thank the Minister and DAFF for additional funding provided over the past year to support the delivery of particular projects and market development initiatives for the sector. This has been especially important in a funding-constrained environment as we reach a critical point in key initiatives that will make a material difference for the sector in coming years.

Thanks also to the whole Board and team of Wine Australia for their support and efforts over the past year. We remain laser-focused on responding to the priorities of our customers and enabling the sector's success.

In this difficult global environment and moment, there are more reasons than ever for the sector to work together on common priorities towards recovery and profitability. As I step back from this role and others take up the challenge, I have every confidence the sector will come through these tough years better equipped and set up for the challenges ahead.

Dr Michele Allan AO



Our role and strategic priorities

Wine Australia empowers the success of the Australian wine sector. Our functions, defined by the *Wine Australia Act 2013* (the Act), exist to better the knowledge, opportunities and excellence of the sector's people, processes and products so that levy payers can remain profitable, resilient and sustainable. These functions are:

- **Research, Innovation and Adoption (RI&A)** to enhance global competitiveness, helping grape and wine businesses meet the challenges of tomorrow, today
- **Market Development** to increase the demand and premium paid for Australian wine across all markets by expanding market and promotion opportunities for Australian wine, and
- **Regulatory Services** to safeguard product integrity and uphold the sector's reputation by maintaining market confidence in the high standards expected of Australian wine.

Wine Australia is funded by the sector, for the sector, through grapegrower, winemaker and exporter levies and user-pays charges, with matching funds from the Australian Government for research and innovation. From 2025 onwards, the Australian Wine Future Fund has increasingly become part of the funding mix, as we build partner co-investments, venture capital support and grant funding income, and leverage additional Commonwealth matching funding to supplement declining levies.

Our five-year strategic and annual operational plans outline the key investment priorities we report against each year; these in turn are guided by the Australian grape and wine community's priorities set out in the *One Grape & Wine Sector Plan (OGWSP)*.

The *OGWSP* is a strategy that articulates the sector's most pressing needs and outlines clear actions to be taken by all parts of the sector to achieve individual, business and sector success. This plan and goal underpins our long-term aims and, along with the Australian Government's Science and Research Priorities and National Agricultural Innovation Priorities, inform our strategies – how we invest for the sector's success.

Wine Australia released its current *Strategic Plan 2025–2030* on 1 May 2025. This five-year plan aligns closely to the priorities of the *OGWSP* and will be reported against within our Annual Reports from this year onwards.

Through delivery of the actions allocated to Wine Australia under the *OGWSP*, we aim to foster a prosperous Australian grape and wine community. We do this by investing in research and innovation, supporting market development and diversification, disseminating research and knowledge through extension and adoption activities, and ensuring compliance with relevant legislation.

To achieve this, we collaborate and work closely with a range of partners, including grape growers, wine producers, wine exporters and the Australian Government; national, state and regional representative organisations; research providers; state governments; wine industry suppliers; international regulators; and other research and development corporations (RDCs).

The Australian Government is a co-contributor of research and innovation funding – matching dollar-for-dollar the levy investment from Australia's grapegrowers and wine producers and other cash contributions. We also work closely with the Australian Government to enhance market opportunities and reduce barriers to trade.

Our research providers include the AWRI, CSIRO, universities and state agencies. We also invest with other RDCs in cross-sectoral collaborative research to deliver RI&A benefits to the broader community.

Our governance and operations seek the best possible return on the investment of industry levies and charges and ensure compliance with the Government's expectations for regulatory authorities and Performance Principles for RDCs.

In the current international trading environment, there is significant strategic value in Wine Australia's role as an independent, trusted statutory authority with responsibility for wine export regulation, alongside its broader industry functions. At a time when market access increasingly depends on confidence in regulatory systems, product integrity and credible government-to-government relationships, Wine Australia provides international partners with assurance that Australian wine regulation is administered objectively, transparently and in the national interest. Its statutory status creates important separation between regulatory decision-making and individual commercial or industry interests, reducing any perception that export controls, compliance or market integrity arrangements can be influenced by particular businesses or industry groups. This independence strengthens the credibility of Australian wine in international markets, supports Australia's reputation as a reliable trading partner and provides a trusted platform for engagement with overseas regulators and governments — an increasingly valuable asset in a more complex, uncertain and politically sensitive global trading environment.

This annual report is the first under Wine Australia's *Strategic Plan 2025–30*.

How we make investment decisions

All investments at Wine Australia follow a process of regular stop/go checks along the lifespan of the investment – from consultation and design to completion – to make sure they can and are delivering the best value to the sector. This process of investing to create impact has been shared with the sector multiple times in recent years and is available in full on the Wine Australia website.

A graphic showing the allocation of investment across the *OGWSP* priority areas follows overleaf in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Investment share and key outcomes delivered in 2025–26

Investment share and key outcomes delivered in 2025–26

Our systems and infrastructure, $3.3 million

Embrace digital, data and tech transformation

- Trial of robotic UVC disease treatment
- 'Vineyard of the Future'

Ensure product integrity and quality

- Label Integrity Program
- WALAS

Unlocking opportunities for investment

- The AWFF established – $17.1 million additional income already committed through to 2030.

Our people, $5.6 million

Develop skilled and capable people

- Mentoring and leadership programs (Future Leaders, Next Crop, Rootlings)
- PhD scholarships
- Careers in Viticulture and Wine website
- DEI initiatives and support

Enable practice change

- AWRI Extension, Help Desk and Information Services ringfenced from funding cuts
- National Advisor Network rollout
- A range of support material including the new *VitiSnips* and *On the Marc* newsletters

Our sustainability, $12.9 million

Future proof our supply base

- Smoke taint risk decision support tool transitioning to commercialisation
- Viticert launched and National Germplasm Collection Program continues
- Biosecurity and pest and disease management options

Putting the sector's ESG and sustainability plans into action

- Sustainability and Ethical Business Guides
- Pilots for circularity solutions for CCA treated posts

Embrace sustainability and aim for continuous improvement in practices

- SWA governance and funding

Promote sustainability responsibly in our marketing efforts

- SWA-themed activity with global customers
- Key SWA messaging incorporated into AWD modules and activations





Our place and product, $6.2 million

Balance supply and demand

- National Vineyard Register build commenced
- Data, tools and dashboards, including the Grape Production Cost Calculator
- Diversification Guide for grape growers
- Vineyard resting options

Improve our wine with innovation

- Mid-strength wine category development and technical work
- More effective winery-scale bacterial propagation techniques
- New AWRI Agreement executed – wine science capability preserved

Our markets, $11.4 million

Diversify and intensify international markets

- Data on consumer and market opportunity for mid-strength wines
- Direct in-market representation in North America, the United Kingdom, Japan and China
- Roadshows in North America, Japan, China and Europe
- Major pavilion presence at Vinexpo Asia, Prowine Shanghai and Wine Paris
- 'We Make a Wine for That' domestic marketing campaign
- Australia has held or grown share in all key export markets except Norway

Enhance the perception and consumer appeal of our wine

- Global activations (including core education) included 2,949 unique wines across 665 brands from 46 regions
- Roadshows and masterclasses in North America, the United Kingdom and Europe
- Quality perception rating averaged 7.6 out of 10 across 13 key markets

Improve international market access

- Support for the Australian Government's negotiations for improved market access
- 40 export market guides and other support material
- Analytical testing of exported wines to verify compliance
- AWRI DogBook

Our consumer, customers and community, $10.7 million

Respond to our customers and consumers

- Consumer insights, data and tools
- Wine Tourism and Cellar Door grants ($10 million)

Benefit cost analysis

Benefit cost analysis of a selection of R&D investments has occurred annually for at least a decade. A summary of the most recent economic analysis, completed in 2025–26, of the selected research projects funded by Wine Australia and completed during the 2024–25 financial year is provided in the following table. The full report is available on the Wine Australia website.

All projects demonstrated positive economic returns, with benefit cost ratios (BCRs) ranging from 1.1 to 6.1. The weighted average BCR was estimated at 3.9 over a 30-year period from the year of assessment. This indicates that, for every dollar invested, the projects are expected to deliver back $3.90 in benefits.

These results provide strong evidence that Wine Australia's research and innovation investments will generate significant value for industry stakeholders. A number of identified benefits, particularly social and environmental outcomes such as industry resilience, biosecurity, environmental outcomes, leadership capability, reputation and social licence were not quantified – the true value generated by Wine Australia's investment is likely higher than reported and will continue to flow from adoption.

Table 1: Benefit cost analysis results for 2024–2025 projects funded by Wine Australia

Project	Partner	BCR	Key quantified benefit	Other unquantified benefits
NOLO Mouthfeel and Flavour Stability	AWRI	1.1	Winemaker profit on additional sales of no and low alcohol wines	Reduced reputational risk from poor-quality NOLO products.
Influencing wine style and efficiency through management of oxygen during wine production	AWRI	3.3	Increase in profitability of red wine making	Improved consumer experience through enhanced wine quality.
Agronomic tools to support a whole system approach to reducing water risk in rain dependent and supplementary irrigated viticulture	Charles Sturt University	3.2	Avoided yield losses because of improved management responses during drought conditions	Improved environmental resilience of vineyards.
Integrated management of grapevine phylloxera: Phase II	Agriculture Victoria	6.1	Reduction in spread of phylloxera	Mental health benefits from reduced uncertainty about outbreaks. Better general biosecurity preparedness.
Emissions Reduction Roadmap	Edge Environment	4.5	More efficient pathway to emissions reduction	Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Improved social licence to operate.
Future Leaders 2025	Pragmatic Thinking	2.9	Additional volunteer days contributed to industry and community	Better strategic decision-making across businesses and industry bodies. Greater collaboration across regions and the value chain. Increased diversity in leadership. Enhanced attraction and retention of talent in the wine sector.

Background to the *One Grape & Wine Sector Plan*

The *One Grape & Wine Sector Plan* (*OGWSP*) is not a Wine Australia plan. While initiated by the Boards of Wine Australia and AGW, it was developed with, by and for the sector itself, through an extensive consultation process in 2023–24 that included a national survey, 17 workshops (attended by large and small wine businesses, grape growers, researchers, representative bodies, suppliers and government representatives). A 'Have your Say' feedback period on the draft led to further stakeholder submissions and a much more focussed and action-oriented final plan. The priorities identified in the *OGWSP* were distilled from and informed by input provided by all these stakeholders. The content and structure of the Plan is driven by the purpose of the document as well as the pressing sector profitability concerns that drove it.

For Wine Australia, the priorities and actions identified through the *OGWSP* are aligned with our mandate in supporting the sector's profitability and sustainability through research and innovation, market development and regulation. It has informed our new *Strategic Plan 2025–30* and the investments we will make in coming years.



Figure 2: The objectives of the *One Grape & Wine Sector Plan* allocated to Wine Australia

Wine Australia's core functions under the Act	Our place and product	Our markets	Our consumers, customers and community	Our sustainability	Our people	Our systems and infrastructure
Research and Innovation	Balance supply and demand Improve our wine with innovation			Future proof our supply base Putting the sector's ESG and sustainability plans into action Embrace sustainability and aim for continuous improvement in practices	Develop skilled and capable people Enable practice change	Embrace digital, data and tech transformation, enable end-to-end data models and ensure access to information
Market Development		Diversify and intensify our international markets Enhance the perception and consumer appeal of our wine	Respond to our customers and consumers	Promote sustainability responsibly in our marketing efforts		
Regulatory Services		Improve international market access				Ensure product integrity and quality
Enablers						Unlocking opportunities for investment
Leadership	Risk management Governance Financial management Data management and cyber security Measurement and evaluation Resource allocation Customer engagement Alignment with Government priorities People and culture					

Summary of progress against the *OGWSP* and Wine Australia's *Strategic Plan 2025–30*

Table 2: Summary of progress in 2025–26

What we heard from the sector*	What we delivered in 2025–26
Address the need to balance supply and demand	• Domestic Sales data dashboard and Grape Production Cost Calculator delivered • National Vineyard Register co-designed with the sector, data sharing agreement reached with Vine Health Australia, platform build commenced • Domestic marketing campaign • Vineyard resting options and a Diversification Guide for growers
Critical sector-facing services at AWRI to be maintained	• Ring-fenced the critical sector-facing services at AWRI to protect them from any future levy/vintage-based reductions • Negotiated and executed the 2026–30 Investment Agreement with AWRI
More certainty, transparency and accountability around SWA	• Reached agreement with AGW and AWRI on SWA funding and governance arrangements through to 2030, with an independent Chair, skills-based Board and dedicated EO appointed and underway
More sector say in decision making and transparency around investments	• An AGW Policy Forum presentation on Wine Australia governance in November 2025 • Investment decision process and benefit cost analysis outcomes published on the Wine Australia website • Refreshed membership and leadership of the joint Research and Marketing advisory committees with AGW • Communication of outcomes and investments via multiple channels (events, webinars, newsletters etc)
Innovation and product development to meet consumer needs	• Lighter lifestyle wine category development to help inform product innovation aligned with consumer moderation trends
More transparent and tailored communication	• Redevelopment of our website is underway to deliver a modern, reliable and customer-focused digital platform that improves access to information and services, supports transparency and provides better value for all levy payers and customers • Two new EDMs launched specifically for grape growers (*VitiSnips*) and winemakers (*On the Marc*)
Increase regional support	• Joint appointments and pooling of resources with states and regions to leverage additional funding and efficiencies • National Advisor Network established, with regional discussion groups also increasing peer-to-peer learning opportunities • New E&A team members with strong industry background

*Through the extensive national consultation for the *OGWSP* in 2023–24 and subsequent annual state workshops, additional Viticulture & Wine Sector Working Group consultation with the inland wine regions and via Wine Australia's 2025 Annual Customer Survey feedback.



Activities and achievements



Research and Innovation

In such a difficult operating environment, with the sector facing evolving global climate, market and profitability issues, it is more critical than ever that we keep innovating to address the technical, research and extension challenges that they pose. The development of appealing new wine styles, reducing vineyard input costs, mitigating biosecurity risks, reducing carbon emissions and increasing wine business productivity and competitiveness in a tough global market are all essential for the long-term sustainability and viability of the Australian wine sector.

The *OGWSP* delivered in 2024–25 provided a blueprint which outlined the sector's most pressing challenges and has shaped Wine Australia's strategy and investments over the period since. Aligning future production with market demand to balance supply and demand was the most critical area identified and a range of DAFF-funded projects have been working to address this problem from different angles. The design and build phase of the National Vineyard Register (NVR) platform build is well underway, informed by ongoing consultation with grower and producer groups from across the sector. With the help of Vinehealth Australia data from South Australia, the NVR will significantly improve the national supply picture (by region and variety) to enable more informed grower, wine business and sector-level decisions and help prevent the kind of boom-bust cycles we have seen over recent decades.

The depth and range of dashboard data, information and calculator tools available to growers and producers has also expanded during the past year to assist in business decision making. And a diversification guide is now available online and through rural financial counsellors which seeks to aid difficult transition conversations and decisions where profitability is no longer possible. Ensuring the sector has access to the most relevant and trusted data and insights to inform business decision making is helping to deliver increased resilience. The Domestic Sales Dashboard (available since September 2025) will continue to offer in-depth data analysis covering wholesale and retail channels, and consumer insights specific to the Australian market.

Wine Australia also continues to invest in innovation at AWRI that supports the improvement of wine quality, including optimising microbiological inputs to manage fermentation and non-volatiles, and improving filterability through understanding its chemical drivers. The development of a clearly defined mid-strength category based on targeted consumer research and input from the sector was also a key focus in 2025–26, as lighter styles of wine continue to outperform the traditional big sellers across many markets. In parallel, work continues on the technical challenges of lower-alcohol wine production to expand winemakers' options as they seek to craft appealing new wines in the 7–9% ABV range.

Australia's climate continues to change and present challenges in managing vineyards. Building our climate resilience through practices that protect Australia's viticultural assets and working to preserve and enhance the environment will require sustainable vineyard planning, climate-suitable varieties, clones and rootstocks, maintaining healthy vines, and managing pests and diseases. Wine Australia's investments in this area aim to provide grape and wine producers with greater flexibility and more options in responding to the effects of climate change, sustainably managing pests and diseases and meeting the challenges of biosecurity threats. These include mildew-resistant grapevines and the Wine Industry Smoke Detector (WISD) smoke taint risk tool as a key element of an integrated management approach for at-risk regions, both set to be commercialised through agreements with research partners. To support these efforts, VitiCert Australia, a grapevine certification program launched in May, will be rolled out over the next two years.

Sustainability is not just about climate change adaptation of course. Wine Australia's program of research and extension in this area also supports growers and producers to understand and action ESG-related activities that are aligned with business profitability, longevity, social licence and ensuring global market access. As the world increasingly embraces sustainability, organisations across many sectors are improving practices to meet changing customer and consumer demands around eco-friendly practices, social responsibility through fair labour practices and community engagement.

To this end, Wine Australia seeks to assist grape growers and winemakers to understand and respond to opportunities to increase data capture and storage in order to build business resilience and reduce costs. Greater uptake of existing technology, behaviour change, data capture and information disclosure are all required. By providing the sector with the tools and knowledge to make practice changes, businesses can meet and exceed market demands, reduce their costs, harness opportunities, mitigate risks and better capture and communicate their sustainability credentials, progress and achievements.

Wine Australia also continues to invest in a vibrant, dynamic and forward-thinking sector by building well-established networks of people at all levels across the sector equipped with the skills and desire to lead, inspire and navigate change, and attracting, supporting and retaining talent to benefit from a broader range of perspectives and expertise. This will potentially become even more important for the sector's longer-term viability as any contraction will inevitably lead to the loss of experienced people and skill sets.

Wine Australia's extension and adoption efforts continue to evolve in line with our strategy to better meet the needs and issues of grape growers and winemakers and foster regionally owned solutions. This includes maximising the potential for pooling resources and leveraging industry levies more effectively. The impact sought from Wine Australia's investment in this area is that grape growers and winemakers across all business models and geographic regions will have access to the support and information they need to implement practice change in their business.

As we enter the second year of Wine Australia's *National Extension and Adoption Strategy 2025–30*, new adult-learning methodologies are focussing on the topic priorities identified by the sector, primarily business, sector and environmental sustainability, including further progress against the *Emissions Reduction Roadmap*. Communication of research outcomes has occurred via regional program workshops, webinars, the release of Sustainability and Ethical Business Guides and several video case studies produced to share strategies used by winemakers and growers to reduce emissions and costs.

Wine Australia is an active partner in a cross-sectoral project to identify best practice monitoring and evaluation across extension activities, with the intention of taking a consistent and national approach across multiple providers which better supports benchmarking, progress reporting and continuous improvement.

The past year has also seen AGW, Wine Australia and the AWRI reach agreement to strengthen and support SWA through to 2030, establishing an independent SWA Chair, a skills-based board and dedicated executive officer.

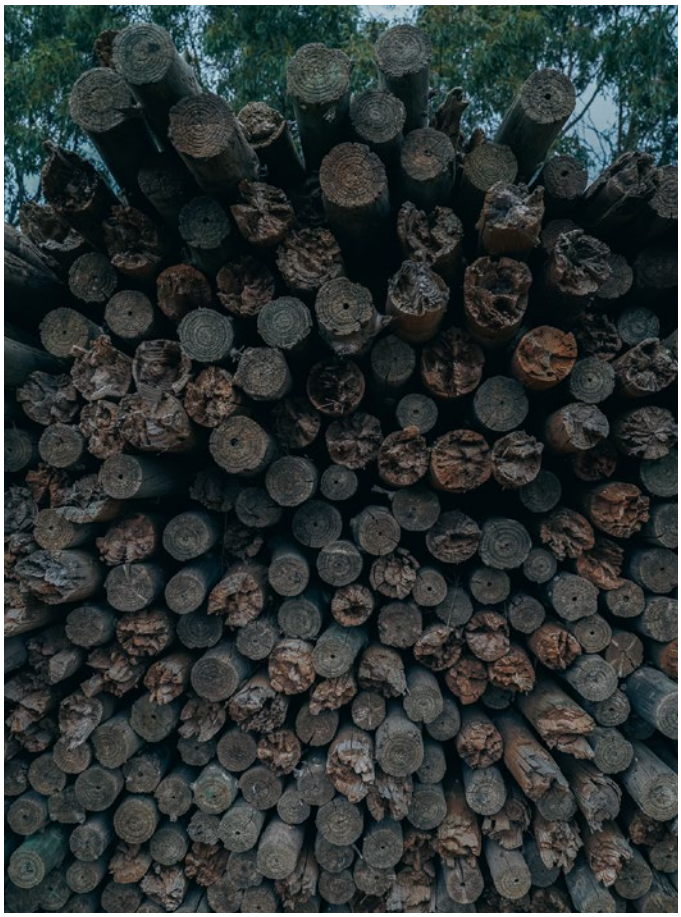


Table 3: Research and Innovation 2025–2026

OGWSP priority area	2025–26 investments and activities	Achievements and outcomes as at 30 June 2026
Balance supply and demand	Implement a framework for a national vineyard register to provide insight into the national vineyard area and winegrape supply, capturing key data to support business planning.	The design phase of the platform build has been completed and the build phase commenced in May. There will be a three-phase roll-out of the platform, with an initial limited release to a beta group of internal and external users for testing in early August, followed by a 'soft launch' of the main features of the platform in October and a final release in November/December 2026.
	Lead initiatives to improve transparency and data availability to support efforts to balance supply and demand – from vineyards to sales.	Wine Australia invested in a range of data collections and sources to improve transparency to support decision-making around supply and demand balance. On the supply side, this included the Production, Sales and Inventory Survey and National Vintage Survey. On the demand side, this included export data, domestic sales data and a wide range of export market-specific sales data.
	Provide data, information, and tools to help the sector plan pathways, and exit strategies if necessary, to a sustainable supply and demand balance, and to help businesses make informed decisions to plan a resilient future.	A range of dashboards were updated regularly and made freely available to grape growers and winemakers to support decision-making including the Export Dashboard, Domestic Sales Dashboard, Grape Price Indicators Dashboard, National Vintage Survey Dashboard, Grape Growing Cost Calculator, Market Explorer, and FOB to Retail Calculator. In addition, the 'Ask an Analyst' service enabled the sector to have individual discussions with the Market Insights team. Regular presentations were also provided at national and regional industry seminars and conferences. The I-GRO project also delivered a diversification guide for use by rural agricultural counsellors with those considering exiting the sector.
Improve our wine with innovation	Invest in the development of innovative new products to compete in product categories with increasing consumer demand, such as low and 'mid-strength' alcohol wines.	With funding from DAFF through the *Grape and Wine Sector Long-term Viability Support Package*, Wine Australia commissioned Nielsen IQ (NIQ) to conduct a rigorous project to identify the most promising consumer segments and category proposition ideas to build and scale the market for mid-strength wine across Australia, USA, UK, and China. A category concept was developed that reflects the core consumer need the research uncovered: a lighter alcohol, lighter flavour, easy to choose wine that fits today's more mindful, balanced, and flexible lifestyle.
	Invest in the development of new vineyard practices and winemaking techniques so that the sector can innovate and produce wines that resonate with consumers.	In vineyards, cover crop effects on flavour and the use of activated carbon fabrics to mitigate smoke taint have been investigated, while a range of AgTech demonstration sites were utilised. In winemaking, there were significant investments at AWRI across flavour attributes of significance to growers and winemakers, fermentation management through optimal microbial consortia, addressing production challenges through the management of wine non-volatiles, understanding in-mouth sensory properties and transformative microbiological inputs for innovative winemaking. These resulted in more effective winery-scale bacterial propagation techniques for MLF, the identification of chemical drivers of poor filterability, and clean up and re-use of heavy-press fractions with ultra-filtration. New breeding technologies created stable strains with improved outcomes that are continuing on to development phases.
	Explore new technologies along the value chain to improve quality and efficiency.	A project on creation of 'smart surfaces' to remediate wine issues such as reductive aromas and cold stabilisation has entered a prototyping phase. A vineyard resting project was finalised and a development project to support rapid analysis of vineyard viruses was initiated.
	Provide information, insights and innovation that support the sector to align products, quality, and value with consumer and market demand.	Regular analysis was prepared to deliver insights around market and consumer trends by variety, wine style and price point and provided to the sector via various communication channels such as the Market Bulletin, webinars and market insight reports.
	Support market intensification of existing markets and diversification to emerging markets for Australian wine, based on providing greater understanding of consumer and market trends.	A range of consumer and insight reports were delivered to the sector, including deep-dive research on consumers in China, Thailand, Vietnam and the NIQ project (see above) on unlocking opportunities for mid-strength wines.
	Support regional associations to design and enhance local solutions for key challenges in viticulture, winemaking and business.	The Regional Program continued to support state and regional associations to identify and execute extension projects of relevance to local grapegrowers and winemakers on a national scale. This has been amplified by Wine Australia securing collaborative funding arrangements.

Table 3: Research and Innovation 2025–2026

OGWSP priority area	2025–26 investments and activities	Achievements and outcomes as at 30 June 2026
Future proof our supply base	Support research into development and evaluation of new planting materials, including varieties, clones and rootstocks.	A program of projects at CSIRO continues to focus on production of improved clones of existing premium winegrape varieties using 'DNA-free' gene-editing and on breeding of next-generation rootstocks with durable pest resistance. The gene editing pipeline is well-established, with over 200 gene-edited grapevine lines, across several key varieties, maintained by the project team. A project has been initiated with the Wine Australia CE team to develop a communication strategy for gene editing in grapevines. First- and second-generation mildew-resistant grapevines are being evaluated in-field, with several Gen-1 selections in commercial production. Agreements with CSIRO for commercialisation of Gen-1 mildew-resistant material and the C-series rootstocks are being finalised, and we are exploring options for a clear pathway to market for existing and emerging material from the portfolio.
	Continue to invest in the Wine Australia National Grapevine Collection Program to protect and preserve Australia's unique grapevine genetic resources, facilitate the supply of clean, true-to-type planting material to the sector and support propagation supply chain activities that build and strengthen sector resilience.	A new grapevine certification program, VitiCert Australia, was launched at the ASVO forum in late May, for staged rollout over the next two years. We have continued to support maintenance of and access to key germplasm collections, initiated establishment of a Vine Integrity and Security Collection, initiated virus elimination from priority cultivars in collections and continued vine enhancement projects, including clearing the path for importation of varieties resistant to Pierce's disease. The final phase of AWRI research into the genetic diversity and origins of Australian heritage grapevines concluded.
	Develop a decision support tool for grape growers and winemakers which encompasses all existing knowledge to predict, manage and mitigate the increasing risk of bushfires and smoke taint.	We are transitioning the WISD smoke taint risk tool to full commercialisation by Goanna Ag through a Federal Government AEA Innovate grant in partnership with La Trobe University. The first year saw successful validation, refinement and scale-up of the WISD technology, with appointment of a grant-funded resource at Wine Australia to support extension and adoption activities across at-risk wine regions. The WISD tool is a key element of an integrated solution to management of smoke taint.
	Invest in the development of improved and/or innovative vineyard practices, and techniques to manage vineyard pests and diseases more sustainably.	Research investments addressing wine sector biosecurity, pest and disease priorities are progressing well. Through Agriculture Victoria Research, the phylloxera and virus projects are advancing surveillance and diagnostics. Outcomes include new eDNA, remote sensing and machine learning approaches for phylloxera surveillance; new phylloxera cultures to support future rootstock resistance screening; evaluation of safer disinfestation options; and improved virus sampling and diagnostic protocols through national field trials and development of a national virus reference collection. Through SARDI, projects addressing grapevine trunk disease (GTD), fungicide resistance and grapevine scale are progressing well. Outcomes include improved understanding of GTD spore dispersal and infection risk; advances in GTD and fungicide resistance diagnostics; improved fungicide resistance sampling and surveillance; greater understanding of scale biology and lifecycle timing; and evaluation of biological and chemical management options. Together, these investments are building the knowledge and tools needed to improve surveillance, diagnosis and sustainable management of priority vineyard pests and diseases.
	Maintain and strengthen cross-sectoral and government partnerships to leverage funding and support biosecurity research, innovation, development, and extension efforts.	Wine Australia continues to strengthen collaboration with government and other plant industries through the Plant Biosecurity Research Initiative (PBRI). Wine Australia has invested in the cross-sector Biosecurity Trakka project to strengthen national genomic capability for faster identification and response to plant biosecurity threats, while ensuring grape and wine priorities are incorporated into this national capability. Wine Australia is also managing delivery of the government-supported Global Scan, which has identified 183 emerging crop protection technologies and assessed priority opportunities and barriers to adoption. Sector-specific case studies and pathways to adoption are now being developed. Together, these initiatives provide access to national expertise and collaborative research while ensuring grape and wine priorities are represented in cross-sector and government biosecurity initiatives.

Table 3: Research and Innovation 2025–2026

OGWSP priority area	2025–26 investments and activities	Achievements and outcomes as at 30 June 2026
Putting the sector's ESG and sustainability plans into action	Support transition to practices that lower the sector's carbon emissions by 42 per cent by 2030, consistent with the Australian wine sector's *Emissions Reduction Roadmap*. Explore new practices and solutions to continue reducing emissions.	Gaps in understanding of emissions management and other barriers were identified through a DAFF-funded project, and used to inform priorities. Wine Australia co-funded positions with Agriculture Victoria and the WA Department of Primary Industries and Regions to extend the reach of the ESG program. A project has commenced with inland wineries to identify opportunities for cost reduction through energy savings utilising the peer-to-peer learning model being piloted in extension across six regions in the ESG space.
	Share progress, challenges, and achievements related to emissions reduction efforts with the sector.	Seven video case studies were produced, highlighting strategies used by winemakers and growers to reduce emissions and costs. Promotion has been initiated via extension communication channels. Re-measurement of sector emissions is underway, reflecting changes in packaging, electricity generation, logistics and efficiency improvements from the 2021 baseline.
	Investigate sustainable usage of, or low-emissions alternatives to, vineyard and winery inputs	Wine Australia continues to support PhD research investigating opportunities to reduce reliance on synthetic nitrogen inputs, through use of biochar, biostimulants, composts and cover crops.
	Develop solutions for waste circularity and sustainable packaging.	Investment towards circular (non-landfill) end-of-life solutions for CCA-treated vineyard posts has continued. Support of PhD research to develop a novel process to extract CCA metals from posts and create value has produced promising results at lab scale. Collaboration in the Timber Circularity Project delivered a pilot to test the commerciality of recycling vineyard posts for fencing. Wine Australia also supported the establishment of a project to design a national product stewardship scheme for CCA-treated posts. We have worked with various partners to develop a structure to evaluate novel end-of-life technologies with the goal to deliver a pilot in 2027/28. Wine Australia has also secured regional partners to support the testing of novel communication channels to growers to encourage adoption of sustainable CCA post disposal. A guide to inform selection of sustainable packaging, by market, has been drafted.
Embrace sustainability and aim for continuous improvement in practices	Encourage the use of science-based ESG metrics to enable Australian wine businesses to consistently measure, validate and report their sustainability credentials in accordance with globally recognised standards.	Collaborative projects in a number of winegrowing regions pursuing emission reduction whilst piloting peer-to-peer learning, are driving the use of desirable metrics and data collection.
	Increase adoption of best practice irrigation management.	Wine Australia's investment through the OneBasin Cooperative Research Centre is supporting three projects to deliver benefits to vineyard irrigators. One project investigated opportunities for private green finance to support improvements to water and land management practices, with initial findings presented. Another recent project is working with irrigation technology companies and irrigation advisors in the Murray Darling Basin to strengthen their value to growers. The final project has estimated the GHG emissions generated through irrigation in the Basin, and is investigating opportunities for large-scale reduction.
	Develop strategies and practices to improve soil health, biodiversity and landscape management that improve measurable ecological outcomes.	Investment in the national EcoVineyards program concluded in December 2025, with an extensive library of resources available through the website. A new project has commenced to identify approaches to carbon farming and natural capital that are economically attractive and relevant for vineyard owners.
	Provide practical tools and campaigns to support effective implementation of sustainable practices in diverse business scenarios.	The *Sustainability Strategy and Reporting Guide* and the *Sustainability Communications Guide* were developed and circulated through various online channels. An *Ethical Business Guide* and accompanying *Communication Guide* were also produced to provide an understanding of the risks surrounding modern slavery, suggest practical safeguards and give recommendations for meaningful action to prevent exploitation of people within the wine sector.

Table 3: Research and Innovation 2025–2026

OGWSP priority area	2025–26 investments and activities	Achievements and outcomes as at 30 June 2026
Embrace sustainability and aim for continuous improvement in practices	Support regional associations to design solutions for local challenges in viticulture, winemaking and business.	The $750,000 regional program continues to support regional associations in a bottom-up capacity. Notable programs/workshops facilitated included 'Ecovineyards for soil health', 'Soil health for drought resilience', 'Water budgeting', 'Circular economy', 'Managing abandoned vineyards', 'Optimising sustainable vineyard production costs', 'Biosecurity simulations', 'SWA 1:1 training' and 'Improving vineyard profitability'. In partnership with AgriFutures and funded by DAFF the I-GRO diversification guide provides valuable resources for growers to systematically plan a future strategy for a more profitable business, whether they stay in the wine industry or choose to leave. A companion resource was developed for service providers to support growers through the process. A collaborative project has been initiated to inform the development of an Emissions Reduction resource hub on the Wine Australia website.
	Work with Australian Grape and Wine and the Australian Wine Research Institute to implement better governance for Sustainable Winegrowing Australia (SWA).	A dedicated executive officer, independent chair and a skills-based board have been established for SWA and AGW, Wine Australia and the AWRI have backed the changes with a new agreement for 2025–30, strengthening their shared and longstanding commitment to the program. The changes implement recommendations from an independent governance review that provide an evidence-backed pathway to increase clarity, efficiency and responsiveness, as well as supporting the program to anticipate future needs. Through these changes, SWA will have appropriate oversight, governance, established funding and committed resourcing – positioning this critical program to deliver value to Australian grapegrowers, winemakers and the broader sector. This will include a focus on how to drive continuous improvement of the ease of use and cost-effectiveness of the program on behalf of its members.
Develop skilled and capable people	Promote career pathways information to the grape and wine sector as a career of choice among school and tertiary students.	Wine Australia continued to maintain and expand content through the *Careers in Viticulture and Wine* website. During 2025–26, the platform recorded 3,799 users and 7,207 page views, providing a valuable resource for students, educators and careers advisers. Three new career-focused video case studies were developed and published, showcasing diverse career pathways within the industry, and a new curriculum-aligned educational resource was developed, with a focus on adaptation, sustainability and innovation in grape and wine production. Through Wine Australia's partnership with the Primary Industries Education Foundation Australia, the industry maintained a strong presence in national engagement initiatives. Across National Agriculture Day, National Science Week and National Careers Week campaigns, conferences, workshops and resource platforms, an estimated 11,500 teachers and 3,200 schools were reached. Wine Australia also maintained a targeted presence at careers and school expos in key wine regions, particularly where schools deliver viticulture and wine studies. This work was complemented by support for regional school-industry collaboration projects, helping to strengthen regional awareness of career opportunities and pathways.
	Work with the school, vocational training and higher education sectors, as well as government-funded and other priority initiatives addressing workforce and labour issues across agriculture.	Wine Australia collaborated with the education sector, alongside national workforce and education initiatives, to contribute industry knowledge and resources supporting skill and workforce capability development. A key focus during the year was the development of the National Schools Food and Fibre Education Strategy, a cross-sector initiative focused on strengthening food and fibre education and improving connections between education providers and industry.

Table 3: Research and Innovation 2025–2026

OGWSP priority area	2025–26 investments and activities	Achievements and outcomes as at 30 June 2026
Develop skilled and capable people	Invest in activities to attract and retain skilled and semi-skilled people in all areas of the wine sector, ensuring an experienced and capable workforce.	Through the Rootlings youth network early-career professionals were provided with opportunities to build industry connections, broaden their understanding of the sector and engage in professional development activities. The network continued to facilitate peer-to-peer learning and strengthen connections between emerging talent and industry leaders across wine regions. Wine Australia supports Rootlings in collaboration with the Australian Society of Viticulture and Oenology (ASVO), National Project Officer Jenna Vaughan and industry-led State champion volunteers. Wine Australia also supported a range of student scholarships, bursaries and emerging talent initiatives in partnership with ASVO, Adelaide University and vocational training providers. In addition, the PhD top-up scholarship program continued to support research capability and contribute to the development of future industry expertise across several priority areas. Together, these activities contributed to attracting, developing and retaining skilled people across a range of technical, scientific and industry roles.
	Deliver regional and national mentor and leadership programs, such as Wine Australia's Future Leaders and Next Crop programs, to ensure equal opportunities for regional leadership development pathways and career advancement.	Fifteen participants graduated from the Future Leaders 2025 program, with key insights and industry perspectives captured and shared through *Future Leaders Thought Leadership Volume* 5. We continue to support the leadership alumni with exposure to national leadership development opportunities, supporting their continued growth and impact. Future Leaders received award nominations from the Australian Institute of Training and Development for Best Leadership Development Program (second year in a row) and the 2026 V d'Or – Vinexposium Business Awards in the Best Education & Transmission Category. The Next Crop 2025 regional leadership program was delivered in the Barossa Valley, Queensland, Coonawarra and Yarra Valley, Mornington Peninsula and Gippsland regions, engaging 71 participants through a combination of workshops, industry visits, peer learning activities and group projects. Strong interest continued for the 2026 intake with programs confirmed for the Riverland, Hunter Valley and McLaren Vale regions. The Wine Industry Mentor Program continued to support knowledge transfer, professional development and industry connection through structured mentoring relationships. In 2025, 54 mentees participated in the program, with a new cohort of 52 mentors and mentees commencing in 2026. Collectively, these initiatives provided opportunities for emerging and established professionals to strengthen leadership capability, build industry networks and support the ongoing development of a skilled and capable workforce.
	Maintain a commitment to research and activities aimed at achieving DEI across the sector and ensure diversity and inclusivity in mentoring and leadership programs.	Wine Australia maintained and expanded content through the Gender Equity Toolkit. During 2025–26, the platform recorded 1,843 users and 5,558 page views, providing practical illustrative examples and a simple but effective implementation framework to help all wine businesses assess their situation, establish priorities, take action and monitor progress. Wine Australia was invited to present the Gender Equity Toolkit to the International Organisation of Vine and Wine (OIV) Consumption, Nutrition and Health Expert Group, in collaboration with AGW. The experts present highlighted the importance of this topic for the global grape and wine sector, where gender equity is increasingly recognised as an important component of social sustainability.

Table 3: Research and Innovation 2025–2026

OGWSP priority area	2025–26 investments and activities	Achievements and outcomes as at 30 June 2026
Enable practice change	Continually improve extension and adoption efforts through collaboration and consultation with grape growers and winemakers.	Cost-benefit analysis was conducted to look at flexible delivery of extension and the growing role of private service delivery. The National Advisor Network rollout followed as a result of this analysis. The program is fostering greater collaboration and insights – with clearer collaboration pathways between industry and Wine Australia. A mid-cycle review for the Regional Program was conducted with feedback sought from partners through both interview and survey. Key areas for improvement have been identified and changes to improve flexibility and targeting are underway. This is complemented by significant 'boots on the ground' presence in regions from the extension team. Two new extension team members, with strong industry background have bolstered resourcing and program credibility with industry. The first cohort of Discussion Groups has started across six wine regions, testing how peer-to-peer learning can act as a catalyst for change for businesses and amplify learnings more broadly.
	Facilitate practice change and the adoption of existing knowledge to improve grape growing, winemaking, exporting and running a wine business.	Establishment of the *VitiSnips* and *On the Marc* newsletters is providing timely, targeted advice to growers and winemakers, extending existing knowledge in an approachable and jargon-free format. Establishment of a National Advisor Network to build advice/extension capacity in regions utilising respected and influential professionals from across the industry. Training of industry facilitators to lead communities of practice discussion groups – focusing on peer-led practice change; demonstrated across other ag sectors to lead to very favourable adoption outcomes. Conducted a trial to utilise microbiology to influence wine styles focusing on Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. Wine produced will be utilised in extension workshops for comparative tastings and peer learning.
	Identify and support activities to increase innovation and profitability in wine businesses.	An Impact Project Facilitator position to pressure test innovative research and technologies is in development. Presentation of disease-resistant varieties at key conferences such as ASVO as a strategy for input/cost reduction and improved environmental sustainability. An 'Electrification of vineyard practices in inland regions' pilot program was established. Introduced cost-saving innovations and practices via extension communication channels.
Embrace digital, data and tech transformation, enable end-to-end data models and ensure access to information	Support the development of world class digital and data systems and technology that are fit-for-purpose, integrated and efficient.	A 'vineyard of the future' project was supported to demonstrate the integration of data from multiple AgTech inputs and new vineyard technology and data requirements for carbon measurements in vineyards.
	Develop and implement a central register for the collection and storage of data related to the identity, location and health status of Australian grapevine propagation assets and to the grapevine varieties, clones and rootstocks available to the sector.	Background work completed for the register includes compilation of data from previous surveys, addition of new data from virus testing and other activities, a review of local and international germplasm database systems, determination of stakeholder functions and requirements of structure. An RFP was drafted. Before progressing, we are working to understand how this register will interact with and augment aligned initiatives such as VitiCert Australia and the National Grapevine Register, as well as efforts to compile registers by individual organisations such as SAVIA.
	Develop activities, including demonstrations, trials and skills development, and build clarity around return on investment to support increased adoption of best practice technologies in vineyards and wineries.	Financial contribution to various disease modelling systems in the Murray Valley and specific regions of SA is leading to actionable insights to reduce grower inputs and labour costs. Trial and demonstration of UVC disease treatment along with robotic automation for unmanned deployment of this technology has resulted in adoption of this robotics technology gaining traction in the industry. Supported NSW Wine's vineyard of the future project which is deploying automation and a range of data collection technologies. Facilitated deployment of WISD smoke detectors to provide real time decision data to growers on smoke impact.



Market Development

Wine Australia empowers sector success by identifying, developing and promoting the market opportunities with the greatest potential to build demand and value for Australian wine globally. Wine Australia does not sell wine; it aims to create the conditions that help Australian wine businesses compete and succeed.

Our market development investments are focused where collective action can deliver the greatest sector-wide impact: generating insights, building valuable connections and strengthening capability. Working in partnership with the sector, we aim to grow demand for Australian wine and increase the premium it commands by:

- delivering relevant, timely insights that enable confident, evidence-based decisions;
- creating high-value opportunities for wine businesses to build connections that lead to commercial outcomes; and
- strengthening sector capability through education and targeted market activations that build awareness, relevance and preference for Australia and Australian wine.

Wine Australia directs its finite marketing resources towards the opportunities most likely to generate meaningful returns for the sector. Our investment decisions are strengthened by advice from sector-led groups, including the Joint Marketing Group (JMG), a standing joint committee with AGW comprising marketing practitioners from small, medium and large wine businesses, together with representatives from regional associations. Quantitative and qualitative evidence is used to categorise markets as 'emerging' or 'established', enabling resources and market development activity to be tailored to the conditions and opportunities in each market.

Through market development activity designed to serve a broad customer base and support their businesses and brands, Wine Australia creates meaningful connections with trade, consumers and influential market gatekeepers. This focused approach is helping Australian wine maintain momentum in a difficult trading environment. IWSR market share data indicates that Australia held or increased its share in almost all target export markets over the past year.

Wine Australia is also helping the sector respond to changing consumer preferences and unlock new growth opportunities. We continue to support product development initiatives, including 'lighter lifestyle' wines, while leveraging trends that can broaden the occasions on which Australian wine is considered and enjoyed. This work is designed to expand international distribution and market penetration while defending Australian wine's position in the domestic market.

The initial rollout of the domestic 'We Make a Wine for That' campaign in the second half of 2025 demonstrated the value of a flexible, unifying platform. Social media, regional and retail partners strongly adopted campaign assets that could be used alongside individual and regional brands. Recognised with design and marketing awards in 2025, the campaign brought distinctly Australian consumption occasions to life and showcased the breadth of Australian wine styles available to suit them.

Success in category marketing is rarely measured by a single result, particularly in a market heavily influenced by changing consumer preferences, broader economic conditions and long-term category trends.



Global Market Update 2026 in Adelaide

Outcomes from the initial 2025 campaign were encouraging with 291 registered activation partners across Australia. Reported sales value showed a modest increased (~2%) over the campaign period compared with the previous year. While positive, these indicators should be viewed in context. One data point does not make a trend, and meaningful change in mature categories rarely comes from a single campaign or event. It comes from sustained, coordinated effort over time, consistent investment and a willingness to keep adapting as consumers evolve.

Presenting a broader and more contemporary range of wine styles is also helping to challenge entrenched perceptions of Australian wine. At roadshows and masterclasses across established markets in North America, the United Kingdom and Europe, trade and consumer participants regularly expressed surprise at the quality and diversity found at the lighter, more delicate end of the Australian wine spectrum. These responses demonstrate the opportunity to broaden understanding of what Australian wine represents today.

Education remains one of our most powerful tools for building positive perceptions and increasing consideration of Australian wine. During the year, our education activities expanded and evolved through greater use of Australian Wine Discovered (AWD) assets and deeper engagement with targeted subject matter experts and influencers. Together, these initiatives are extending our reach and equipping credible advocates to tell Australia's wine story with confidence.

Our investment in a cohort of highly trained and motivated educators across Asia is building greater awareness and more positive perceptions of Australian wine throughout the region. These educators provide an important multiplier effect, extending knowledge through their networks and supporting the presentation of a large and diverse range of Australian wines through Wine Australia activations during the year.

Significant economic headwinds continued to influence trade listing priorities and consumer discretionary spending. Even in this environment, research shows that sustainability and environmental, social and governance (ESG) practices and values remain important to global customers. *OGWSP* consultation found that the sector is committed to upholding sustainability and ESG principles and communicating them honestly and transparently. SWA therefore provides a compelling platform to strengthen trust in the Australian wine brand and demonstrate the sector's credentials in a credible, consistent way. Wine Australia will continue to integrate SWA messaging into marketing activity where appropriate. Strengthened governance arrangements and funding support through to 2030 provide a firm foundation for this work and reinforce the opportunity for trustmarked wines in key international markets, particularly monopoly markets such as Canada and the Nordic countries, where sustainability is an increasing focus.

High-quality market intelligence underpins the sector's ability to act with confidence. Our Market Insights team continues to deliver data and analysis that supports better business decisions across the sector. The Domestic Sales Dashboard, delivered in 2025, expanded the suite of practical tools available to levy payers. The DAFF-funded Lighter Lifestyle Wines project, completed in May 2026, combined consumer and market research, sector expertise, and technical and regulatory considerations to give businesses a stronger evidence base for product development and innovation aligned with consumer demand.

Table 4: Market development 2025–2026

<table>
<tr><th>OGWSP priority area</th><th>2025–26 investments and activities</th><th>Achievements and outcomes as at 30 June 2026</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">Diversify and intensify our international markets</td><td>Understanding the market and consumer opportunity is key to building share. In 2025–26 we will generate and disseminate relevant and usable insights for the sector to enable better decision making on market attractiveness, consumer wine drinking motivations and behaviours and potential product development, such as mid-strength wine.</td><td>A range of consumer and insight reports were delivered to the sector, including deep dive research on wine consumers in Australia, China, Thailand and Vietnam and unlocking opportunities for mid-strength wines. The reports provided detail on consumer wine drinking motivations, behaviours and occasions. Market attractiveness was assessed and illustrated through the Market Explorer tool and associated analysis.

These insights were delivered via a range of communication channels, including webinars, Market Bulletins and articles.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Strong collaboration with Austrade (and other agencies) to fill capacity gaps and provide in-market expertise and commercial assistance to potential exporters will continue. This includes regular market updates and capability building sessions.</td><td>We continue to work closely with Austrade to deliver insights, capability building activity and facilitate connections geared to commercial outcomes. This includes pre-event market briefings, market update webinars, on ground business matching and market access assistance.

Wine Australia is a consortium member of the Accessing New Markets Initiative (ANMI), led by AGW and involving state bodies from New South Wales, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia.</td></tr>
<tr><td>In-market activity provides platforms to engage, educate and excite trade and consumers, build understanding of Australian wine and enable commercial outcomes with local trade partners.

Roadshow locations in 2025–26 will include:

• North America
• Japan
• China
• Europe (Nordics and Netherlands)

Signature events include:

• Vinexpo Asia Hong Kong
• Prowine Shanghai
• Wine Paris</td><td>FY26 saw the successful activation of roadshow events in North America, Japan, China and Europe.

Wine Australia-led activities at Vinexpo Asia, Prowine Shanghai and Wine Paris were all fully subscribed and our Australian Trade Tasting events in England, Scotland and Ireland were all well supported by exporters and attended by local trade. Post-event exhibitor surveys showed high levels of satisfaction for those participating.

Quantifiable outcomes as measured via IWSR market share data shows that Australia has held or grown share in all key export markets excluding Norway, despite challenging market conditions.

<table>
<tr><th>Emerging markets</th><th>Baseline</th><th>2025–26</th></tr>
<tr><td>Vietnam</td><td>10%</td><td>10%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Philippines</td><td>15%</td><td>15%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Indonesia</td><td>38%</td><td>39%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Thailand</td><td>31%</td><td>29%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Established markets</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Grow Premium imported</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>United States</td><td>5%</td><td>7%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Canada</td><td>5%</td><td>7%</td></tr>
<tr><td>UK/Ireland</td><td>8%</td><td>10%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Maintain Commercial imported</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>United States</td><td>15%</td><td>19%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Canada</td><td>20%</td><td>21%</td></tr>
<tr><td>UK/Ireland</td><td>20%</td><td>23%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Grow Total imported</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Denmark</td><td>13%</td><td>15%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Sweden</td><td>7%</td><td>7%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Norway</td><td>7%</td><td>5%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Finland</td><td>7%</td><td>8%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Japan</td><td>5%</td><td>6%</td></tr>
<tr><td>China</td><td>4%</td><td>17%</td></tr>
<tr><td>Maintain Domestic</td><td>80%</td><td>82%</td></tr>
</table>
</td></tr>
</table>

Table 4: Market development 2025–2026

OGWSP priority area	2025–26 investments and activities	Achievements and outcomes as at 30 June 2026
Diversify and intensify our international markets	We will ensure that our annual international market development and communications programs reflect the varied needs of the sector and the in-market opportunities at hand through leveraging the expertise and insights of the Joint Marketing Group (JMG).	We continue to work with the JMG, drawing on their breadth of marketing experience and industry expertise to provide strategic input to help shape Wine Australia's market development activities and to ensure Wine Australia's marketing activities are aligned with the priorities of the Australian grape and wine sector. Wine Australia's annual operating plans are shared for input in development and assessed for outcomes against plan.
	With input from JMG, we will activate a domestic marketing initiative to raise awareness and relevance of Australian wine in more drinking occasions.	Wine Australia led the development and activation of the 'We Make A Wine For That' campaign in FY26. The campaign reached more than 4 million people, delivered 6.4 million impressions across digital channels, was seen by over 2 million shoppers and drove more than 16,000 visits to the national events calendar, putting Australian wine top of mind for consumers in a meaningful way.
Enhance the perception and consumer appeal of our wine	In 2025–26, we will establish baseline data to establish current perceptions about the appeal of Australian wine in our target markets. • Australia • USA • Canada • UK • Nordics • Japan • China • SEA – Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia and Philippines	Baselines were established via consumer surveys conducted by YouGov to measure the current perceptions of Australian wine in the target markets. The benchmark quality perception ratings out of 10 are: • Australia 8.53 • United States 7.25 • United Kingdom 7.54 • Canada 7.57 • Denmark 6.94 • Sweden 7.17 • Finland 7.69 • Thailand 8.11 • Vietnam 8.07 • Indonesia 8.13 • Philippines 7.81 • China 7.50 • Japan 7.06 The average score across the 13 markets was 7.64
	We aim to continually increase the perceptions around quality and diversity, delivering tailored programs to aid awareness, understanding and preference for Australian wine. As detailed in the activities designed to 'diversify and intensify', in-market platforms allow us to engage, educate and excite trade and consumers, building a greater understanding of the quality and diversity of Australian wine. We will proactively target key opinion leaders across established and emerging markets, particularly the latter where language or other cultural barriers can provide a barrier to messaging. Wine Australia's Education Development Managers will continue to engage with leading educators and opinion leaders and run training programs and workshops directly.	Our Wine Education Managers delivered 76 activations in FY26. In FY26, our global activations (including core education) included 2,949 unique wines across 665 brands from 46 regions, showcasing the quality and diversity of the Australian wine offer. Measuring pre and post-event attendee perceptions of Australian wine, these activities showed an improvement from 8.2 to 9.2. Further, inbound international visits from North America, EMEA, China, Japan and Southeast Asia have allowed us to leverage in-market roadshow and event activity, provide a platform to inspire and engage educators and key influencers, and expose key trade buyers to the quality, diversity and value that Australian wine offers from the people and the places that make it unique.
	We will also look to supplement education activity with a network of recognised in-market educators who can utilise our widely translated AWD education modules to build awareness of and greater affinity for Australian wine. In 2025–26, this model is being utilised in China, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam.	We continue to build a cohort of highly trained and motivated educators across Asia, with partners now established in China (13), Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia and the Philippines. These educators utilise our AWD education materials to build awareness and affinity for Australian wine, with messaging and consumption occasions tailored to local opportunity.

Table 4: Market development 2025–2026

OGWSP priority area	2025–26 investments and activities	Achievements and outcomes as at 30 June 2026
Promote sustainability responsibly in our marketing efforts	In 2025–26 we aim to build recognition across global trade – as key gatekeepers – that Australian wine is sustainably produced, supported by established credentials that are recognised by key customers across the entire supply chain. Activities include: Connecting with engaged global customers to deliver SWA-themed activity that aligns with their commercial needs and builds awareness of the Australian wine industry's sustainability endeavours with their customers.	In FY26, activity centred on building awareness with key gatekeepers from markets / customers taking a proactive position on sustainability. In most cases, these were monopoly markets in Canada and the Nordics, with SWA certification increasingly considered in tenders and listing decision making. The opportunity for the sector is to build critical mass of trustmarked wines available in these markets to allow for themed activity targeted at consumers to build awareness and preference for Australian wine.
	Utilising pilot programs to build greater understanding and uptake across other markets and customers.	The opportunity to deliver pilot programs has been constrained by the lack of critical mass of trustmarked wines available in export markets. We continue to investigate options as distribution weight allows.
	Collaborating with Australian Grape & Wine and the Australian Wine Research Institute on a sector engagement strategy for SWA.	Wine Australia works closely with AGW and the AWRI to support the new SWA Board to enhance sector engagement through the program.
	Collaborating with other agriculture sectors and other grape growing and winemaking geographies to support recognition of sustainable practices.	Cross-industry sustainability practices and messaging is incorporated into the Taste the Wonders of Australia program across Southeast Asia. The program is a collaboration between Dairy Australia, Hort Innovation Australia, Meat & Livestock Australia, Seafood Australia and Wine Australia.
	Maintaining the sector's accountability and transparency of practices through truthful marketing and communications. Communicating the Australian wine sector's ESG commitments and credentials with a clear and consistent narrative across the value chain.	Communication is vetted to ensure accuracy of claims.
	Incorporating key SWA messaging into AWD modules and activations	SWA messaging is incorporated into all Wine Australia-led market-facing activities and updated AWD education resources.

Respond to our customers and consumers	Improve research, innovation and marketing efforts by involving key customers in the co-design process, gaining insights into their needs throughout the product development and marketing cycle.
	Key activities in 2025–26 include:
	• National Vineyard Register development
	• Enhancing existing dashboards
	  ‣ Export Dashboard
	  ‣ Grape Price Indicators Dashboard
	  ‣ Market Explorer
		Wine Australia has worked closely with sector representatives during the design phase of the National Vineyard Register to ensure that it meets their needs and is user-friendly.
		Regular feedback from the sector was also sought regarding enhancements made to the suite of dashboards that Wine Australia makes available.

	Work in concert with the Consumer Insights Advisory Group to: • Foster collaborative responses to consumer insights across the value chain. • Co-design research and innovation programs, such as the mid-strength wine production project, to align developments with consumer insights to attract new customers and expand market presence.	The Consumer Insights Advisory Group provided direction in the delivery of consumer insight reports on China, Thailand and Vietnam as well as throughout the mid-strength wine project. This included a collaborative two-day workshop with wine brand representatives from across the Australian wine industry to pressure-test and bring to life the value propositions. By combining consumer-led insights with deep industry expertise, the group collectively shaped and refined the most compelling opportunities and category propositions.

Table 4: Market development 2025–2026

OGWSP priority area	2025–26 investments and activities	Achievements and outcomes as at 30 June 2026
Respond to our customers and consumers	Provide accurate and up-to-date data, information and insights to the sector to supporting evidence-based decision-making.	Wine Australia provided accurate and up-to-date data, information and insights, including exports, domestic sales, wine production, wine stock levels, crush by region and variety, global trade by source country and destination and wine consumption, drawing on a broad range of third-party data providers.
	Deliver it to ensure maximum impact, including: • Market bulletins • Webinars • In-person events and presentations • Tailored conversations such as 'Ask an Analyst'	The wide range of insights that the Market Insights prepares and sources was delivered to the sector via numerous communication channels including Market Bulletins, webinars, in-person events and presentations and tailored discussions through the Ask An Analyst tool.





Regulatory Services

Wine Australia empowers sector success by safeguarding product integrity to uphold the reputation of Australian wine, maintaining market confidence in the high standards expected of our world-class product.

Well-designed, fit-for-purpose regulatory settings – and compliance with regulation – is crucial for the continued success of our wine sector. Regulatory compliance underpins consumer health and safety, and confidence in the provenance of a product; it can also serve to facilitate trade by demonstrating product credentials to international markets.

Australia's wine export controls are administered through WALAS, which allows users to apply online for a licence to export, register products and apply for shipping approval, upload labels, edit shipping details, apply for export documents, manage associated exporters, make payments online, and manage account access. In 2025–26, the WALAS system was upgraded to enable the digitisation and online issue of export certificates, a time, cost and labour-saving improvement that further streamlines the process for exporters.

Our Label Integrity Program team continues to audit, support and advise wine businesses around the country on record keeping, labelling and related export requirements, with a total of 173 Label Integrity Program inspections of wine premises, and 50 record keeping inspections of non-producer exporters.

During the 2025–26 year, Wine Australia cancelled an export licence as a result of ongoing Label Integrity Program-related investigations. This action demonstrates our commitment to protecting the reputation of the Australian grape and wine sector in all markets. The infrequent nature of export licence cancellations is a good indicator of the prevailing culture of compliance within the grape and wine community.

Regulatory complexities and the dynamic nature of international trade and regulation present ongoing challenges to the profitability and growth of Australian wine exports. These are addressed by working together with the Australian Government and the sector (including AGW and the AWRI) to enhance market access by identifying and managing technical trade barriers and by investing in developing, enhancing and providing technical information to support negotiations. We aim to reduce trade impediments by communicating regulatory information to support the sector's success in global markets and by establishing mutually advantageous relationships in export markets.

In discharging our regulatory responsibilities in accordance with the *Wine Australia Act 2013* and *Wine Australia Regulations 2018*, we meet the Australian Government's Statement of Expectations and uphold the standards for regulator best practice. We remain focussed on continuous improvement and building trust, managing risks and maintaining essential safeguards while minimising regulatory burden, and leveraging evolving data and digital technology opportunities to support the Government's regulatory reform and productivity agenda.

Throughout 2025–26, this has involved efforts to align with Code of Conduct and other legislative developments to reduce duplication of data collection efforts, both for relevant agencies and producers.

Table 5: Regulatory services 2025–2026

OGWSP priority area	2025–26 investments and activities	Achievements and outcomes as at 30 June 2026
Ensure product integrity and quality	In 2025–26, we will ensure wide and timely access to information on market regulatory requirements and changes to support production and processes to align with standards and facilitate market access. Such activities will include: • the maintenance and continued enhancement of the Licensing and Compliance Guide and other guidance materials • the maintenance and continued enhancement of 40 Export Market Guides • the publication and distribution of regular updates via the "Exporter News" newsletter and other sources • regular engagement with, and presentations to, producers, exporters, regional associations and other institutions • offering a label opinion service to promote labelling compliance • communication of information via direct contact with producers and exporters.	We maintained and continued to enhance the Licensing and Compliance Guide and other guidance materials, including 40 Export Market Guides. We also published and distributed regular updates regarding compliance and global wine regulation via the *Exporter News* newsletter and other sources, including presentations to producers, exporters, regional associations and other institutions. We also continued to offer a label opinion service to promote labelling compliance and communicated information via direct contact with producers and exporters.
Improve international market access	In 2025–26, we will continue to provide information and insights to enable businesses to comply with export market regulations and make informed commercial and strategic decisions pertaining to export growth and diversification opportunities. Such activities will include: • the maintenance and continued enhancement of 40 Export Market Guides; • the publication and distribution of regular updates via the *Exporter News* newsletter and other sources; • regular engagement with, and presentations to, producers, exporters, regional associations and other institutions; and • communication of information via direct contact with producers and exporters.	We maintained and continued to enhance the *Licensing and Compliance Guide* and other guidance materials, including 40 Export Market Guides which are regularly refreshed to ensure currency. We also published and distributed regular updates regarding compliance and global wine regulation via the *Exporter News* newsletter and other sources, including presentations to producers, exporters, regional associations and other institutions. We also continued to offer a label opinion service to promote labelling compliance and communicated information via direct contact with producers and exporters.
	In 2025–26, in furtherance of continuously improving a market access strategy that appropriately addresses emerging challenges and seeks to promote a fair-trading environment for Australian exporters, we will continue to collaborate with AGW, the AWRI and the Australian Government to ease technical and non-tariff barriers to trade and streamline regulatory processes, including via active participation in World Wine Trade Group (WWTG), FIVS, OIV and their subcommittees/expert groups.	We continued to collaborate with AGW, the AWRI and the Australian Government to ease technical and non-tariff barriers to trade and streamline regulatory processes. This includes active participation in international regulatory fora such as World Wine Trade Group (WWTG), FIVS, OIV and their subcommittees/expert groups. Wine Australia seeks to build and maintain relationships with relevant Government bodies and international counterparts to improve communication and information sharing that supports common aims.
	In 2025–26, we will conduct a program of analytical testing for the purposes of verifying compliance with the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code* and relevant international standards. AGW's Wine Industry Technical Advisory Committee (WITAC) and other stakeholders will be appropriately consulted to inform that program's activities.	We conducted a structured program of analytical testing of a subset of current export wines for the purposes of verifying compliance with the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code* and relevant international standards. AGW's Wine Industry Technical Advisory Committee (WITAC) and other stakeholders were appropriately consulted to inform that program's activities.

Table 5: Regulatory services 2025–2026

OGWSP priority area	2025–26 investments and activities	Achievements and outcomes as at 30 June 2026
Improve international market access	In 2025–26, via coordinated bilateral and multilateral engagement, and via active participation in fora including WWTG, FIVS and OIV, we will build and maintain relationships with counterpart regulators to develop a comprehensive understanding of the regulatory requirements in export markets, assist exporters to resolve specific market access issues, and deliver streamlined regulatory processes.	We continued to maintain relationships with counterpart regulators to develop a comprehensive understanding of the regulatory requirements in export markets, assist exporters to resolve specific market access issues, and deliver streamlined regulatory processes. This occurred through coordinated bilateral and multilateral engagement, and active participation in fora including WWTG, FIVS and OIV.
	In 2025–26, by providing accurate, timely and appropriate technical information as required, we will support the Australian Government's trade negotiations that might result in Australian exporters obtaining preferential treatment in export markets.	By providing accurate, timely and appropriate technical information as required, we continued to support the Australian Government's trade negotiations, such as the free trade agreement with the EU and a wine agreement with India, that might result in Australian exporters obtaining preferential treatment and easier access in export markets.



Enablers

Given the challenging economic environment, high inflation and the limitations of the current levy system, we need to raise external funding from private investors, government sources and the sector to maintain or grow the total investment available. This will be increasingly important for delivery of sector priorities in the years ahead.

The Australian Wine Future Fund (AWFF) was established and launched in 2025 to deliver these outcomes. Financed through a mix of non-levy contributions from industry partners, research providers, and investors and Commonwealth matching funding, its goal is to secure additional funding for higher-risk research and innovation projects, with a focus on attracting cash investments from partners. By aligning with the priorities outlined in the *OGWSP* and *Strategic Plan 2025–30*, the AWFF seeks to amplify the impact of levies and drive greater industry success.

Additional sources of funding will allow us to:

- augment research and innovation
- leverage sector levies with cash investments from partners to achieve the desired impact and deliver tangible outcomes
- recapitalise existing projects with additional cash infusion from partners
- distribute the risk of investing in research and innovation through investments from the sector, service providers and external investors, and
- attract non-levy-based investments to achieve sector priorities.

There are two investment pathways under the AWFF:

- A research and innovation fund operating as currently with cash co-contributions of $12.5 million over five years generating additional matching of up to $10 million, and
- A venture capital fund, into which we will invest up to $2.5 million over five years, generating at least five times leverage by attracting non-levy investments for key R&I initiatives and innovative ventures, ultimately enhancing the long-term sustainability and growth of the wine sector.

Not all funding will be received by Wine Australia directly. Wine Australia's role within the sector is to bring funding in across all businesses, for the benefit of the wider sector. The impact sought is additional investment that will put the sector on the leading edge of research, innovation and technology and make us more competitive globally.

Wine Australia's leadership, customer-first culture and high-performing team are also key enabling aspects of the impact we seek to deliver across our research and innovation, market development and regulatory functions, as well as meeting the requirements of the Statutory Funding Agreement with the Commonwealth. In customer engagement, a strong strategic focus on corporate clarity, customer connection and value proposition continued throughout the year, proactively supporting Wine Australia's functions. Customer communications were refreshed through newsletters, webinars, social media and campaign-based approaches, alongside support for key insights and extension initiatives. The Customer Engagement Framework was released and activated across the organisation, providing a consistent approach for all staff.

Internally, employee engagement results were extremely strong, particularly in the context of challenging operating conditions. Endorsement of Wine Australia's Reflect RAP by Reconciliation Australia was a further significant achievement for the RAP Working Group.

Wine Australia also recorded a positive annual performance review with DAFF and received excellent feedback from the Australian National Audit Office following an exemplary audit with no findings or recommendations. Strong relationships continue with the Minister's Office and RDCs, with the CEO re-elected as Chair of the Council of RDCs Executive Committee.



Table 6: Enablers 2025–2026

OGWSP priority area	2025–26 investments and activities	Achievements and outcomes as at 30 June 2026
Unlocking opportunities for investment	The Australian Wine Future Fund • Establish the Research and Innovation Fund part and successfully secure annual co-investment from partners of at least $2.0 million.	Current and pending investments through the Research & Innovation Fund (RIF) total $17.1 million (co-investment and grants) – more than 48% of our five-year target of $35 million. Secured $7.8 million co-investment from partners (AWRI, Wines of Western Australia, Vinehealth) for multi-year projects. Secured annual co-investment from partners was $1.2 million. $0.5 million of DAFF funding was also leveraged through the RIF, bringing the total co-investment ($1.2M + $0.5M) closer to the target of $2.0 million. Multi-year co-investment agreements already signed will reduce the co-investment required in following years, allowing Wine Australia to achieve the average annual co-investment targets over the five-year period 2025–30.
	The Australian Wine Future Fund • Establish the Venture Fund with an external fund manager (targeting a total fund size of $15.0 million over the next four years) and make the first round of investments.	In 2025–26, Wine Australia: • established an investment entity, Wine Australia Innovation Investment Limited ITF Wine Australia Innovation Investment Trust (WAIIT), to invest up to $2.5 million over five years alongside Tenacious Ventures (TV) and other investors in venture related investments, and • engaged TV as WAIIT's investment manager and advisor. TV also committed to syndicating $12.5 million through its funds and other investors to invest alongside WAIIT over the five-year investment period. WAIIT and TV conducted two Investment Committee meetings and progressed to recommending one start up investment to WAIIT's board. Final stages of negotiation are underway and WAIIT expects to finalise the first venture investment in September 2026. As part of the advisory engagement, TV assessed Wine Australia's R&I portfolio for commercialisation opportunities, shortlisting three projects to explore future commercial and business plans.
	Identify grants, other opportunities for co-investment and pursue collaboration with other agriculture sectors and the private sector for additional funding to action the sector's priorities through: • tendering for state and federal grants • partnering and co-investing in research with state primary industries, research service providers and the sector, and • identifying and pursuing open calls and tenders for innovation, domestically and globally	Wine Australia applied for and/or supported nine grant applications valued at more than $6 million.
Delivering the plan	Customer engagement activities with all customers and industry stakeholders to support their connections to information, markets and networks and facilitate consultation and feedback to Wine Australia.	Wine Australia's customer engagement framework has strengthened customer focus, deepened understanding of customer needs and sought to improve relationships to facilitate uptake of and response to services, programs and activities. In 2025–26, engagement activities have supported customers while creating valuable feedback loops to shape continuous improvement. Key initiatives included *OGWSP* state progress meetings, participation in the Australian Wine Industry Technical Conference 2025, expanded extension and adoption activities, enhanced communication of market insights, the ongoing website redevelopment, and keeping the sector informed at the annual Global Market Update and AGW Industry Forum events.
	Professional development of Wine Australia staff to ensure they have the necessary skills to support the industry.	Staff participated in workload management and resilience training to support effective management of work demands and psychosocial risks. A selected cohort completed our in-house leadership program, 'Lead the Way', and staff were also offered wine education sessions delivered by Wine Australia's own wine educators.

Table 6: Enablers 2025–2026

OGWSP priority area	2025–26 investments and activities	Achievements and outcomes as at 30 June 2026
Delivering the plan	Develop and release a Reconciliation Action Plan.	Wine Australia's Reflect RAP was endorsed by Reconciliation Australia in February 2026. Since then, the RAP Working Group has been progressing implementation of the plan, with a focus on building relationships and partnerships with First Nations peoples, strengthening cultural awareness for staff, and collaborating with other RDCs to share ideas and learn from each other's initiatives.
	Corporate services to ensure accountability, performance, risk management, cyber security, data management, privacy requirements and compliance with statutory obligations, including the Wine Australia Act and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.	The PGPA Act establishes a system of governance and accountability for public resources, with an emphasis on planning, performance and reporting. The PGPA Act applies to all Commonwealth entities, including Wine Australia. The Corporate Services team works to support the delivery of Wine Australia priorities in accordance with the PGPA Act, in areas such as performance reporting, financial reporting, governance and risk management, cybersecurity, and data governance. Wine Australia maintains the policies, plans, guidance and frameworks which are governed by the Board, sub-committees and management team. Wine Australia has an internal Risk Management and Governance Committee. All staff are trained in accordance with the policy training schedule. Under the Statutory Funding Agreement (SFA), DAFF obliges Wine Australia to act in accordance with specified Performance Principles and Guidelines without prescribing how that is to be achieved. Wine Australia meets annually with DAFF to review the past year's performance. Wine Australia's most recent annual performance meeting with DAFF was 28 August 2025, with the 2026 meeting scheduled after 30 June 2026.
	Board and Committee meeting arrangements, locations and support are provided to enable appropriate governance and oversight of Wine Australia's performance.	Wine Australia supports the Board and its committees to ensure they are provided with timely, appropriate and accurate information so they can effectively discharge their responsibilities. A high standard of support is provided for the four Board and associated committee meetings per year and all related documents, including strategic and annual operational plans, ensuring our ongoing compliance with SFA requirements.





The organisation

Organisational structure and statement on governance

Wine Australia is a body corporate operating under the *Wine Australia Act 2013* (the Act) and a corporate Commonwealth entity operating under the PGPA Act.

The Board has obligations under each of these Acts and has ultimate responsibility for the performance of Wine Australia's functions.

The Board has articulated its functions, duties and responsibilities in detail in its Board Charter, and in its Governance Framework, which sets out Wine Australia's corporate governance arrangements – i.e. how, in a practical sense, the Board maintains oversight of the operations of the organisation.

Our head office is in Adelaide and we maintain subsidiaries in the UK, Canada and the US to facilitate our global marketing activities.

Wine Australia also established a subsidiary in Australia under the *Corporations Act 2001* during 2025–26. This subsidiary was established as part of the Australian Wine Future Fund: Wine Australia Innovation Investment Limited ITF Wine Australia Innovation Investment Trust, to support startups from both Wine Australia's R&D portfolio and the wider innovation ecosystem.

Wine Australia abides by the following key principals for Corporate Governance:

- The Board must govern Wine Australia in a way that: promotes the proper use and management of public resources for which the authority is responsible; promotes the achievement of the purposes of Wine Australia and promotes the financial sustainability of Wine Australia.
- The Board must establish and maintain systems relating to risk and control including systems of internal control.
- The Board must maintain oversight of the operations of the organisation through reporting by the CEO.
- The Board must keep the responsible Minister informed of its activities and of any significant issue that may affect it.
- Directors must exercise independent judgment and provide independent oversight of the organisation.
- The Board's performance (including the performance of its Chair, the individual Directors and, where appropriate, members of the Board Committees), must be evaluated regularly.

The Board and Board Committees

The Board is established in accordance with the Act, which stipulates that Board Directors be selected through an independent process, overseen by AGW. The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry appoints new Directors.

The Act states that the Board must consist of a Chair and at least five, but not more than seven, other Directors. During the reporting period, a selection process for two further Directors (in addition to the five appointed in 2024) was conducted by the Department, with appointments to take effect from 17 July 2026, and Dr Michele Allan AO was extended as Acting Chair, pending appointment of a new Chair.

Information about each Board member's qualifications, knowledge, skills or experience (formal and informal), as well as Wine Australia's Board Charter, can be found at https://www.wineaustralia.com/about-us/our-board.

Board Directors

Dr Michele Allan AO (Victoria)

Chair from 4 July 2020.
Deputy Chair 23 November 2018 to 20 October 2019.
Director from 1 October 2018 to 20 October 2019.

Board directors
Dr Angeline Achariya (VIC) Director from 1 October 2024
Roslyn Baker (QLD) Director from 1 October 2024
Andrew Kay (SA) Director from 1 October 2024
Elizabeth (Liz) Riley (NSW) Director from 1 October 2024
Peta Slack-Smith (VIC) Director from 1 October 2024

Audit and Risk Committee

Subsection 45(1) of the PGPA Act requires authorities accountable for all Commonwealth entities to ensure that the entity has an Audit Committee.

During the reporting period, the Audit and Risk Committee comprised:

- Geoff Knuckey (Chair)
- Liz Riley
- Peta Slack-Smith

Audit and Risk Committee members who are members of the Board do not receive additional remuneration above that due to them as board members. As an external consultant Mr Knuckey received $8,800 inclusive of GST for his expertise and attendance for the reporting period.

The Audit and Risk Committee's Terms of Reference can be found on Wine Australia's website at: https://tinyurl.com/5av4nynd

The functions of the Audit and Risk Committee include reviewing the organisation's:

- financial reporting
- performance reporting
- system of risk oversight and management, and
- system of internal control

Independent Audit Committee Chair

Mr Geoff Knuckey

Geoff has extensive experience as an Audit Committee member or Chair and is currently serving on audit committees for numerous government entities. He also has extensive experience as a Director and serves on boards and audit committees of multiple private sector entities. Mr Knuckey has been a full-time company director and audit committee member since 2009 following a 32-year career with Ernst & Young specialising in Audit and Assurance Services in both the public and private sectors across a range of industries.

Qualifications: B. Economics (ANU), FCA, GAICD, Registered Company Auditor.



Figure 3: Wine Australia's risk tolerance

Strategic risks	Risks associated with Wine Australia's ability to clearly plan its business and strategic objectives and deliver them in an agreed timeframe	MEDIUM
Reputational risks	Risks that Wine Australia's stakeholders are not clearly identified, that risks pertaining to each of them are not properly evaluated and that their needs and expectations do not inform Wine Australia's actions and/or strategic directions	LOW
Compliance risks	Risks relating to Wine Australia's ability to maintain an appropriate framework of governance, probity and compliance	LOW
Financial risks	Risks that Wine Australia applies funds ineffectively and/or in ways that are inconsistent with the Wine Australia Act, the PGPA Act, its funding agreements with the Commonwealth, or any other accepted law or standard	LOW
Operational risks	Risks relating to inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems	LOW
Project risks	Risks relating to individual operational projects	HIGH
Emerging risks	Risks that may not be present to Wine Australia currently, but are emerging globally	MEDIUM
Shared risks	Risks associated with industry and government	MEDIUM

Risk management

In 2025–26 Wine Australia managed risk in accordance with its Risk Management Policy and Framework that:

- explains how risks are identified, assessed and managed, and
- establishes a framework that underpins the management of risk.

The Framework is aligned with and reflects existing standards and guidance such as AS/NZS ISO 31000:2018 – risk management – principles and guidelines.

The Framework acknowledges the importance of engaging with risk in our operating environment to deliver programs that are innovative, efficient and dynamic and recognises that a positive risk culture promotes an open and proactive approach to managing risks.

In accordance with its Risk Management Policy and Framework, the Audit and Risk Committee and the Board reviewed and updated the Framework in 2025–26, including its risk tolerance in relation to each risk category defined by the framework. All risks identified as having a risk rating in excess of the corresponding risk tolerance set by the Board were addressed by the Board.

At an operational level, risk was managed through regular meetings of the Risk Management Committee, which provides regular reports to the Audit and Risk Committee. The Audit and Risk Committee reported on risks to the Board after each meeting.

Portfolio Review Committee

The purpose of the Portfolio Review Committee is to:

- oversee investments pertaining to grape and wine research and innovation (R&I), and the promotion of Australian wine to ensure activities and investments are aligned with Wine Australia strategic and operational plans
- provide strategic and operational advice to the organisation pertaining to R&I and the promotion of Australian Wine
- monitor and evaluate Wine Australia's portfolio of R&I and marketing investments, and
- ensure that funds attributed to grape and wine R&I and the promotion of Australian wine are spent in a way that is consistent with Wine Australia's objects, functions and obligations under the Act.

During the reporting period, the Portfolio Review Committee comprised:

- John Lloyd (Chair)
- Angeline Achariya
- Andrew Kay

Portfolio Review Committee members who are members of the Board do not receive additional remuneration above that due to them as board members. As an external consultant, Mr Lloyd received $15,000 for his expertise and attendance for the reporting period.

People and Culture Committee

The objective of the People and Culture Committee is to assist the Board in the discharge of its responsibilities for oversight and approval of the Human Resources (HR) and Work, Health and Safety (WHS) policies and practices of Wine Australia. It meets twice a year.

During the reporting period, the People and Culture Committee comprised:

- Michele Allan (Chair)
- Roslyn Baker

People and Culture Committee members who are members of the Board do not receive additional remuneration above that due to them as board members.

Geographical Indications Committee

The Act establishes a Geographical Indications Committee (GIC) with its primary role being consideration of applications for new Australian and foreign GIs. The GIC comprises members appointed by Wine Australia, including two members nominated by AGW.

The GIC was refreshed in March 2026. Wine Australia gratefully acknowledges the service and expertise of the outgoing members, Dennis Mutton, Phillip Laffer and Peter Hayes.

The new GIC members, effective 24 March 2026, are:

- Mr James Omond – Presiding Member, appointed by Wine Australia
- Mr Steve Guy – AGW nominee
- Mr David Morfesi – AGW nominee

The GIC did not make any determinations of new GIs for wine in 2025–26.

Declared representative organisation

In 2025–26, Australian Grape & Wine was both the declared wine grapegrowers' organisation and the declared winemakers' association for the purposes of section 5B of the Act.

Wine Australia Board meetings 2025–26

Date held	Location
16 September 2025	Coonawarra, South Australia
17 December 2025	Online
24 March 2026	Online
16 June 2026	Online



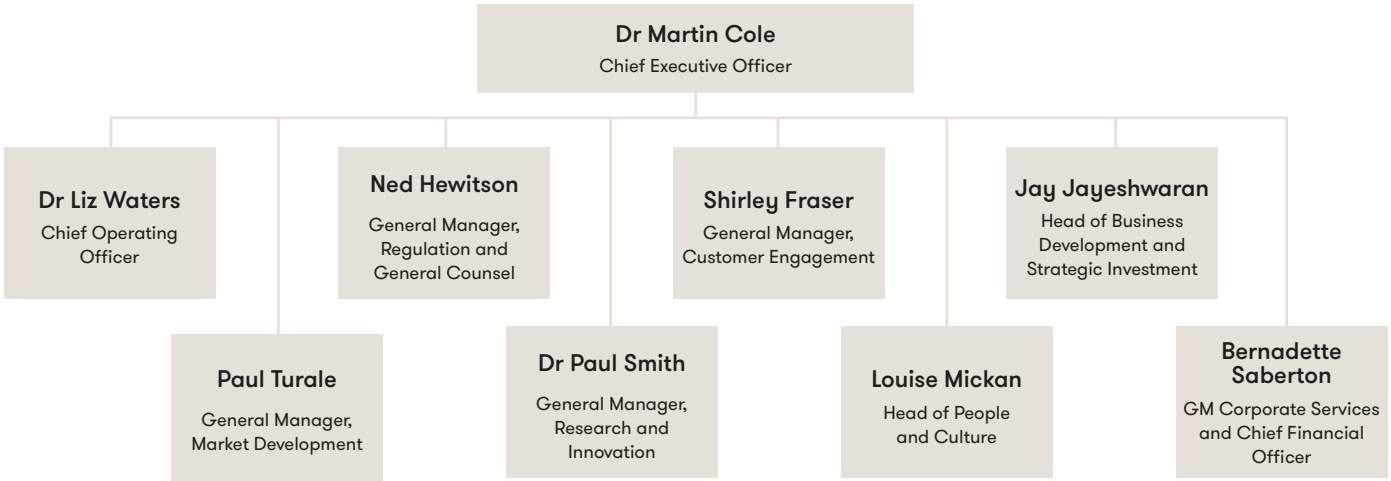
Attendance

	Board meetings		Audit and Risk Committee		Portfolio Review Committee		People & Culture Committee		Additional information
	Eligible	Attended	Eligible	Attended	Eligible	Attended	Eligible	Attended	
Michele Allan	4	4					2	2	Chair
Angeline Achariya	4	4			4	4			Director since 1/10/24
Ros Baker	4	4					2	2	Director since 1/10/24
Andrew Kay	4	4			4	4			Director since 1/10/24
Liz Riley	4	4	4	4					Director since 1/10/24
Peta Slack-Smith	4	4	4	4					Director since 1/10/24
Geoff Knuckey (Ind Chair Audit & Risk Committee)			4	4					External consultant
John Lloyd (Ind Chair Portfolio Review Committee)					4	4			External consultant since 1/10/24

Management and staff

Senior Management as at 30 June 2026

Figure 4: Senior management





Key management personnel remuneration

Table 7: Key Management Personnel (KMP) remuneration

Name and position title	Term as KMP	Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits	Other long-term benefits		Termination benefits	Total remuneration
		Base salary	Bonuses	Other benefits and allowances	Superannuation contributions	Long Service Leave	Other long-term benefits		
Allan, Michele Chair	Full year	87,940	–	1,925	10,553	–	–	–	100,418
Achariya, Angeline Board member	Full year	43,980	–	–	5,278	–	–	–	49,258
Baker, Roslyn (Ros) Board member	Full year	43,980	–	–	5,278	–	–	–	49,258
Cole, Martin Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	Full year	353,292	–	922	63,695	11,632	–	–	429,541
Hewitson, Edward (Ned) General Manager (GM)	Full year	208,629	–	1,954	23,784	5,459	–	–	239,825
Kattuputur Jayeshwaran, Jayakrishna (Jay) Head, Business Development & Strategic Investment	Full year	231,435	–	114	25,593	5,948	–	–	263,091
Kay, Andrew Board member	Full year	43,980	–	–	5,278	–	–	–	49,258
Riley, Elizabeth (Liz) Board member	Full year	43,980	–	–	5,278	–	–	–	49,258
Saberton, Bernadette Chief Financial Officer (CFO)	Full year	198,930	–	–	23,784	12,002	–	–	234,716
Slack-Smith, Peta Board member	Full year	43,980	–	–	5,278	–	–	–	49,258
Smith, Paul General Manager (GM)	Full year	228,123	–	–	26,811	12,342	–	–	267,277
Turale, Paul General Manager (GM)	Full year	288,374	–	192	30,000	7,055	–	–	325,621
Waters, Elizabeth (Liz) Chief Operating Officer (COO)	Full year	276,822	–	–	30,000	13,296	–	–	320,118
13 positions		**2,093,445**	**–**	**5,108**	**260,608**	**67,733**	**–**	**–**	**2,426,893**

Senior executives remuneration

Table 8: Senior executives remuneration

		Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits	Other long-term benefits		Termination benefits	Total remuneration
Remuneration Band	Number of senior executives	Average Base salary ($)	Average Bonuses salary ($)	Average Other benefits and allowances ($)	Average Superannuation contributions ($)	Average Long service leave ($)	Average Other long-term benefits ($)	Average Termination benefits ($)	Average Total remuneration ($)
$0–$220,000	2	169,237	–	1,789	19,976	5,132	–	–	196,135
		169,237	**–**	**1,789**	**19,976**	**5,132**	**–**	**–**	**196,135**

Other Highly paid staff remuneration

Table 9: Other highly paid staff remuneration

			Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits	Other long-term benefits		Termination benefits	Total remuneration
Remuneration Band	Number of senior executives		Average Base salary ($)	Average Bonuses salary ($)	Average Other benefits and allowances ($)	Average Superannuation contributions ($)	Average Long service leave ($)	Average Other long-term benefits ($)	Average Termination benefits ($)	Average Total remuneration ($)
$320,001 – $345,000	1	Full year	287,022	–	44,398	–	–	–	–	331,420
$370,001 – $395,000	1	Full year	321,852	–	46,195	–	–	–	–	368,047

Staff

Wine Australia employed 65 people at 30 June 2026, compared with 63 the preceding year.

Table 10: Staff statistics

	Male			Female			Intersex and unspecified		Total
	F/T	P/T	Non-ongoing	F/T	P/T	Non-ongoing	F/T	P/T	
Australia	18	2	1	22	13	1			57
UK				3	1				4
USA	2			1					3
Canada				1					1
Total	20	2	1	27	14	1	0	0	65





Reporting requirements

Enabling legislation

Wine Australia is established in accordance with section 6 of the *Wine Australia Act 2013*.

Functions

Section 7 of the Act provides that Wine Australia has the following functions:

a) to investigate and evaluate the requirements for grape or wine R&D

b) to coordinate or fund the carrying out of grape or wine R&D activities

c) to:

   i. monitor

   ii. evaluate, and

   iii. report to the Parliament, the Minister and the representative organisations on grape or wine R&D activities that are coordinated or funded, wholly or partly, by the Authority;

d) to:

   i. assess, and

   ii. report to the Parliament, the Minister and the representative organisations on the impact, on the grape industry or wine industry, of grape or wine R&D activities that are coordinated or funded, wholly or partly, by the Authority;

e) to facilitate the dissemination, adoption and commercialisation of the results of grape or wine R&D

ea) to implement, facilitate and administer programs, as directed by the Minister, in relation to:

   i. wine, and

   ii. cider (as defined by section 33–1 of the *A New Tax System (Wine Equalisation Tax) Act 1999*), and

   iii. international wine tourism, and services, products and experiences that complement international wine tourism;

eb) to administer grant programs in relation to wine (as defined by section 33–1 of the *A New Tax System (Wine Equalisation Tax) Act 1999*), as directed by the Minister;

f) to control the export of grape products from Australia;

g) to promote the consumption and sale of grape products, both in Australia and overseas;

h) such other functions as are conferred on the Authority by:

   i. this Act

   ii. the regulations, or

   iii. any other law

i) to do anything incidental to, or conducive to, the performance of any of the above functions.

Note: One of the Authority's functions under the regulations is to establish, maintain and make publicly available a Label Directory.

Objects

The objects of the Act are:

a) to support grape or wine research and development activities; and

aa) to support the growth of the wine industry, and other industries that make wine (within the meaning of section 33-1 of the *A New Tax System (Wine Equalisation Tax) Act 1999*); and

ab) to support the growth of international wine tourism, and services, products and experiences that complement international wine tourism; and

b) to control the export of grape products from Australia, including through the use of a Label Directory containing digital colour images of grape product labels and other information to allow persons to identify potential infringements of intellectual property rights; and

c) to promote the consumption and sale of grape products, both in Australia and overseas; and

d) to enable Australia to fulfil its obligations under prescribed wine-trading agreements and other international agreements.

Responsible Minister

During the year in review our responsible Minister was the Hon Julie Collins MP, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Ministerial directions and government policy orders

Ministerial direction may be given to Wine Australia by the responsible Minister under section 31K of the Wine Australia Act, or by the Finance Minister under section 22 of the PGPA Act.

The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon Julie Collins, wrote to Wine Australia on 22 December 2025 setting out the Department's expectations for the delivery of Wine Australia's regulatory functions. The *Statement of Expectations* provides a set of guiding principles intended to apply across all Research and Development Corporations (RDCs) and placed an SFA obligation on Wine Australia to comply with the directions set out in that guide.

In response, Wine Australia published a *Statement of Intent* on its website on 26 February 2026, noting the Australian Government's priorities and committing to acting in accordance with regulatory best practice in decision making, operational practices, and communications to ensure effectiveness and efficiency.

RMG 128 outlines three principles of regulator best practice, against which regulators are required to report in their corporate plans and annual reports. How Wine Australia meets these three principles is set out in Table 11.

Table 11: Implementation of Regulator Best Practice

Principle	Implementation of Principles	Measure of Success
Continuous improvement and building trust – regulators adopt a whole-of-system perspective, continuously improving their performance, capability and culture to build trust and confidence in Australia's regulatory settings.	• Monitoring stakeholder satisfaction through the annual Customer Survey. • Ongoing interaction with international fora. • The undertaking of an annual review of the cost recovery statement. • The implementation and maintenance of a documented stakeholder consultation procedure. • Significant changes to regulatory frameworks follow stakeholder consultation. • Significant changes to policies and procedures are communicated to regulated entities via a two-stage process of interim, followed by final, determinations. • Regular contact with regional wine grape growers' and wine producers' associations occurs. • Maintaining the Wine Australia Licensing and Compliance Guide. • Engagement with AGW as the declared representative under the Act to test suitability of the current regulatory environment. • Engagement with AGW's Wine Industry Technical Advisory Committee (WITAC). • Engagement with the Wine Industry Market Access Group (a joint initiative of AGW and the Australian Government). • Egregious breaches are publicised.	Reporting against implementation will be undertaken as part of ongoing review of progress against Wine Australia's Annual Operational Plan.
Risk based and data driven – regulators manage risks proportionately and maintain essential safeguards while minimising regulatory burden and leveraging data and digital technology to support those they regulate to comply and grow.	• Maintenance of Wine Australia's risk register and risk framework. • Board meetings are carried out to review risk policy and framework and set risk tolerance. • Encouragement of innovation in data and digital space in the administration of Export Controls and LIP, for example WALAS. • Demonstrated willingness to engage in activities that seek to harmonise trade with trading partners and other domestic regulators. • Maintenance of WALAS and development of LIP. • Maintenance of Wine Watch – an online anonymous reporting tool with Wine Australia investigating all alleged non-compliances reported to it. • Inspections are based on risk profile of having regard to supply and demand issues in specific regions and with certain winegrape varieties. • Additional information is requested from high-risk exporters (using digital technology such as WALAS to identify such exporters). • Implementing an analysis program which involves random analytical testing conducted to ensure and verify compliance with the Food Standards Code and to identify potential market access risks. • New and emerging regulatory risks are identified through maintenance of an enquiry register. • Maintenance and distribution of the *Exporter News* newsletter which provides regular communication about regulations and changes, market access, international developments, the Label Integrity Program, and tips for more efficient exports.	Reporting against implementation will be undertaken as part of ongoing review of progress against Wine Australia's Annual Operational Plan.

Table 11: Implementation of Regulator Best Practice

Principle	Implementation of Principles	Measure of Success
Collaboration and engagement – regulators are transparent and responsive communicators, implementing regulations in a modern and collaborative way	• Continuous and regular communication with stakeholders through a range of channels to ensure a two-way feedback process and continuous improvement. • Maintenance of the Legislative Review Committee to review any regulatory changes. • Wine Australia engages with the OIV and World Wine Trade Group. • Periodic review of market access risks associated with implementation of regulations. • Wine Australia's customer engagement plan includes a schedule of educational activities aiming to increase awareness of requirements under the Act. • Maintenance of a labelling enquiries email inbox where Wine Australia provides free opinions as to labelling compliance matters.	Reporting against implementation will be undertaken as part of ongoing review of progress against Wine Australia's Annual Operational Plan.

Significant non-compliance issues with finance law

There were no instances of non-compliance for Wine Australia in the reporting period.

Significant activities and changes affecting the entity

Wine Australia established a subsidiary in Australia under the *Corporations Act 2001* during 2025–26: Wine Australia Innovation Investment Limited ITF Wine Australia Innovation Investment Trust. This subsidiary was established as part of the Australian Wine Future Fund to support startups from both Wine Australia's R&D portfolio and the wider innovation ecosystem.

Obtaining information from subsidiaries

Wine Australia receives all information from the subsidiaries as required, and all subsidiaries are consolidated into the financial statements of Wine Australia.

Indemnities and insurance premiums

Wine Australia had Directors' and Officers' Liability insurance through ComCover. The insurer recommended that details of the policy and the premium paid not be disclosed. No indemnities have been provided to any current or former officers.

Judicial or administrative tribunal decisions affecting operations

There were no judicial or administrative tribunal decisions for the reporting period.

Transactions with related Commonwealth entities or companies

For transactions with a value of more than $10,000 (inc GST), all related entity agreements were approved in accordance with Wine Australia's procurement policy. The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) received $2.5 million (incl GST) for research and development contracts during 2025–26.

Reports on the entity

Auditor-General (other than under section 43 of the Act)	N/A
Parliamentary Committee	N/A
Commonwealth Ombudsman	N/A
Office of the Australian Information Commissioner	N/A

Work health and safety

Wine Australia is committed to providing a safe and pleasant work environment for both staff and visitors and acknowledge our responsibilities under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*. A WHS and Wellbeing Committee meets regularly, focusing on wellbeing initiatives and the mental health of staff. There were no notifiable incidents or injuries. There were no investigations conducted.

Disability reporting mechanism

Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031 (the Strategy) is the overarching framework for inclusive policies, programs and infrastructure that will support people with disability to participate in all areas of Australian life. The Strategy sets out where practical changes will be made to improve the lives of people with disability in Australia. It acts to ensure the principles underpinning the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities are incorporated into Australia's policies and programs that affect people with disability, their families and carers. All levels of government have committed to deliver more comprehensive and visible reporting under the Strategy. A range of reports on progress



of the Strategy's actions and outcome areas will be published and available at www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/ads.

Disability reporting is included the Australian Public Service Commission's State of the Service reports and the APS Statistical Bulletin. These reports are available at www.apsc.gov.au.

Grants

In 2025–26, Wine Australia administered Round Seven of the Wine Tourism Cellar Door Grant on behalf of the Australian Government. Information on grants awarded through this process is available via GrantConnect at www.grants.gov.au.

Greenhouse gas emissions

Table 12: 2025–26 Greenhouse gas emissions inventory – location-based method

Emission Source	Scope 1 t CO_2-e	Scope 2 t CO_2-e	Scope 3 t CO_2-e	Total t CO_2-e
Electricity (Location-Based Approach)	–	13.86	2.52	16.38
Natural Gas	0.00	–	0.00	0.00
Solid Waste	0.00	–	4.87	4.87
Refrigerants	0.00	–	–	0.00
Fleet and Other Vehicles	6.97	–	1.70	8.67
Domestic Commercial Flights	–	–	36.97	36.97
Domestic Hire Car	–	–	3.24	3.24
Domestic Travel Accommodation	–	–	14.26	14.26
Other Energy	0.00	–	0.00	0.00
Total t CO_2-e	**6.97**	**13.86**	**63.56**	**84.39**

The table above presents emissions related to electricity usage using the location-based accounting method.
CO_2-e = Carbon Dioxide Equivalent.

Table 13: 2025–26 Electricity greenhouse gas emissions

Emission Source	Scope 2 t CO_2-e	Scope 3 t CO_2-e	Total t CO_2-e	Electricity kWh
Location-based electricity emissions	13.86	2.52	16.38	63000
Market-based electricity emissions	42.21	5.74	47.94	52107.3
Total renewable electricity	–	–	–	10892.7
Renewable Power Percentage	–	–	–	10892.7
Jurisdictional Renewable Power	–	–	–	0
GreenPower	–	–	–	0
Large-scale generation certificates	–	–	–	0

Electricity consumption data was estimated based on the floor area occupied by Wine Australia.

Solid waste data was unable to be separated from Landlord data and has been estimated.

Emissions from vehicles and hire cars for 2025–26 may be incomplete due to a lack of robust data. The quality of data is expected to improve over time as emissions reporting matures.

Performance 2025–26

Annual Performance Statement

This Annual Performance Statement for the 2025–26 annual reporting period has been prepared in accordance with section 39(1)(a) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act). In the opinion of the Wine Australia Board (as the authority accountable pursuant to section 12 of the PGPA Act), the Annual Performance Statements:

- accurately present Wine Australia's performance during the reporting period, and
- comply with subsection 39(2) of the PGPA Act.

Further information about our performance against the Annual Operational Plan can be found within the Activities and Achievements section between pages 20 and 39.

Performance principles

In accordance with the Australian Government's Statutory Funding Agreement (SFA), in 2025–26 Wine Australia complied with the Guidelines for Statutory Funding Agreements, the Best Practice Guide to Stakeholder Consultation, and the RDC Companion Document.

The SFA obliges Wine Australia to:

- act in accordance with specified Performance Principles and Guidelines and report against the same
- monitor, evaluate and demonstrate performance, including through annual performance meeting with DAFF, and periodic independent performance reviews
- manage funds in prescribed ways, and
- meet other ancillary obligations set out in the agreement.

Performance against the Principles must be monitored and evaluated through processes implemented by Wine Australia. Further, Wine Australia is required to demonstrate its performance against the Performance Principles to levy payers and other stakeholders.

The Performance Principles are summarised as follows:

Stakeholder engagement – Wine Australia must engage stakeholders to identify research, development and adoption activities that provide benefits to the industry.

Balanced Portfolio – Wine Australia must ensure research, development and adoption (and marketing) priorities and activities are strategic, collaborative and targeted to improve profitability, productivity, competitiveness and preparedness for future opportunities and challenges through a Balanced Portfolio. Balanced Portfolio is defined as meaning a Research and Innovation (and extension and adoption, as part of the portfolio) investment portfolio incorporating an appropriate blend of issues of national importance based on government and levy payer priorities that seeks to balance short-, medium- and long-term investments, high- and low-risk, and strategic and adaptive research needs including consideration of regional variations and needs.

Collaboration – Wine Australia must undertake strategic and sustained cross-industry and cross-sectoral collaboration that addresses shared challenges and draws on experience from other sectors.

Governance – Wine Australia must implement governance arrangements and practices to fulfil legislative requirements and align with contemporary Australian best practice for open, transparent and proper use and management of funds.

Performance – Wine Australia must demonstrate positive outcomes and delivery of research, development and adoption (and marketing) benefits to levy payers and the Australian community and show continuous improvement in governance and administrative efficiency.

The 'Guidelines' are summarised as follows:

- the Australian Government's Science and Research Priorities
- the Australian Government's Rural Research, Development and Extension Priorities
- the National Primary Industries Research Development and Extension Framework
- the Levy Principles and Guidelines, being the guidelines relating to the introduction of new levies or changes to existing levies
- the Companion to the Research & Development Corporations Funding Agreement prepared by the Department, and
- other guidelines or priorities about which the Commonwealth notifies Wine Australia in writing from time to time.



Table 14: Performance Principles

Performance Principle 1 To engage stakeholders to identify Research and Development activities and associated priorities that provide benefits to the Industry		
1.1 and 1.2	Strategy prioritisation and development processes include appropriate consultation plans, based on the Best Practice Guide to Stakeholder Consultation Demonstrated industry stakeholder engagement in the identification of RD&E priorities and activities consistent with the consultation plan in 1.1.	As described previously, our representative organisation, Australian Grape & Wine (AGW) and our broader industry and other stakeholders were closely involved in our initial strategy prioritisation and development process that led to Wine Australia's *Strategic Plan 2025–30*. The first step in this process was development of a whole of sector plan – the *OGWSP*. The consultation for this was extensive and inclusive. Further consultation with Federal and State Ministers through the Viticulture and Wine Sector Working Group also informed the *OGWSP*. The ongoing consultation plan on *OGWSP* and priorities includes annual progress meetings in each state to discuss the outcomes from action areas and ongoing priorities of the *OGWSP* and for Wine Australia. In 2026, annual meetings were held across the month of June for NSW, Victoria and Western Australia with dates for other states still to be finalised. A state-specific handout summarising progress to date by Wine Australia, AGW and the state associations is prepared and provided for each meeting. Stakeholders are highly engaged in these meetings – one of the most important goals of the OGWSP and our ongoing consultation is to see a high level of alignment between state and regional plans, the *OGWSP* and the Wine Australia *Strategic Plan 2025–30*. Ongoing formalised and regular engagement on Wine Australia activities occurs via AGW's Research Advisory Committee (RAC) and our Joint Marketing Group (JMG). Wine Australia staff also regularly present to the AGW Board and AGW Membership Committees, particularly the Vignerons Committee, and participate in and contribute to most of the other AGW Committees: Wine Industry Technical Advisory Committee, Wine Industry Market Access Committee, National Wine Biosecurity Committee, Sustainability Advisory Committee, and Diversity, Inclusion and Equality in Wine Committee. In addition, the CEOs of Wine Australia and AGW and their engagement/partnership staff meet fortnightly to discuss ongoing priorities and plans for the months ahead. In addition, Wine Australia uses a variety of other mechanisms to consult with stakeholders and incorporate their feedback. These range from ad hoc conversations with stakeholders at industry events and activities, project- or activity-specific advisory and steering committees, regular meeting with the CEO of Australian Commercial Wine Producers, monthly meetings with the DAFF Wine Policy Unit and the 'CEO Roundtable Group'. Wine Australia established this group early in 2023 with the CEOs of the top 20 levy paying wine businesses, to inform strategic priorities and shape vision. The Group continues to meet bimonthly.
1.3	Demonstrated incorporation of industry stakeholder feedback on RD&E priorities and activities. Where incorporation is not possible, demonstration of feedback to a stakeholder.	Examples of incorporation of feedback through these mechanisms is the assessment of proposals throughout 2025–26 by RAC and JMG, as follows: • Specific feedback provided by RAC on new investments commencing in 2025–26 and 2026–27 is captured in the minutes from those meetings and reflected in the procurement documents and project agreements for these new investments. At the next RAC meeting following finalisation of the procurement process a summary of how RAC feedback was incorporated and of the final investment is provided. • Consultation with and feedback from the JMG on the draft plans for 2026–27 for global market development activities and events is captured in the minutes from those meetings and incorporated into the relevant sections of Wine Australia's Annual Operational Plan 2026–27. The Plan is then shared with the JMG when published and discussed at their next meeting.

Table 14: Performance Principles

Performance Principle 2 To ensure Research and Development activities, Marketing activities and associated priorities are strategic, collaborative and targeted to improve industry profitability, productivity, competitiveness and preparedness for future opportunities and challenges through a Balanced Portfolio		
2.1	RDC investments align with strategic plans and have demonstrated outcomes to levy payers and taxpayers, including through growth in the industry, increased profitability of producers, commercialisation and access to new markets.	All investments at Wine Australia follow a process of regular stop/go checks along the lifespan of the investment – from consultation and design to completion – to make sure that it can and is delivering the best value to the sector. This process of investing to create impact has been shared with the sector multiple times over the last few years and is available in full on the Wine Australia website. The points in the summary below that directly address this KPI are in **bold font.** At the initiation stage, we ask: • **Does the issue identified align to Wine Australia's role? Are we permitted to invest in a solution?** • **Does it align with the priorities of our levy payers and the Australian Government?** • Does it align with Wine Australia's Strategic Plan? • Is there a market failure? We then work with the sector and with potential project partners and collaborators to refine what needs to be done. What is the intent of proceeding with this issue or opportunity? To identify this, some of the questions we ask are: • **Does this contribute to a balanced portfolio?** • What are the outcomes? • **What value will be created and for whom?** • When will the outcomes be useable by the sector? • Is there a path to adoption? At this point we may also consult with Australian Grape & Wine's RAC and the JMG, and other groups as needed, to advise us on the highest priorities for investment. If a concept passes this step, we commence procurement. Some of the questions we ask of proposals, submissions, and expressions of interest are: • Do the providers have expertise, capability and efficiency to deliver? • Can external funds be leveraged for greater impact? • **Is there a commercialisation or research adoption path?** • Is there a return on investment of the levy funds? • **Do we have the right allocation of resources to priority areas?** We also consult Australian Grape & Wine's RAC and the JMG, and other groups as needed, to review the desirability, viability and feasibility of the proposals on behalf of the sector. Their advice is considered by the Wine Australia Board, who make the final decisions on investment. In the final active project management phase, we regularly check in and ask: • Are milestones being met? • **Is the solution still a priority for levy payers?** • **Are the right extension tools and services in place for practice change?** • Does the workforce have capability to adopt? This step is undertaken with collaborators and partners involved in the project. If investment doesn't pass this step, it doesn't continue because it is unlikely to create impact. However, the concept can still be reworked to realign with the sector's needs. Our Annual Operational Plans outline how we intend to maintain a Balanced Portfolio of investments for that year and our Annual Reports describe how well we achieved this.

Table 14: Performance Principles

Performance Principle 2 **To ensure Research and Development activities, Marketing activities and associated priorities are strategic, collaborative and targeted to improve industry profitability, productivity, competitiveness and preparedness for future opportunities and challenges through a Balanced Portfolio**		
2.2	Levy payers who participate in RDC supported extension and adoption programs: • gain new knowledge or new information to improve their long-term profitability, productivity, competitiveness and preparedness. • intend to make or have made changes to existing practices by adopting the outcomes of R&D	Impactful, nationally coordinated extension continues to be a high priority for Wine Australia. We are now entering the second year of Wine Australia's National *Extension and Adoption Strategy 2025–30*. As the E&A Strategy is fully operationalised, new adult-learning methodologies are focussing on the topic priorities identified by the sector, primarily business, sector and environmental sustainability, including further progress against the Emissions Reduction Roadmap. Two quarterly issues of Wine Australia's new strategic communication channel for hands-on growers and winemakers (called '*VitiSnips*' and '*On the Marc*' respectively) have now been published, along with supporting web copy. A rolling12-month development and publishing program has now been established, with industry reference groups and writing teams for winemaking and viticulture established. Wine Australia's relationship with our Regional Program partners continues to be strengthened via regular, virtual 'round tables', one-on-ones and fast responses to requests and ideas which make their role easier and more impactful. This has been further enhanced by the appointment of Wine Australia's new Manager – Regional Innovation (Chris Beard, a new incumbent in an existing position) who is demonstrating a quick understanding of essentials and brings a new perspective and exciting ideas. Extension and adoption (E&A) activities delivered by Wine Australia and delivery partners continue to be evaluated against agreed knowledge and confidence change metrics. Our most recent metrics showed that 65% of the producers who engaged in Wine Australia's E&A activities understand the potential benefits to their business of adopting new, relevant practice changes or technologies and 16% have adopted these innovations. We acknowledge that the financial environment and current business capacity of the sector are not conducive to adoption at this time, and extension can realistically only take the sector as far as informed decision making. A decision to 'not' adopt an innovation is just as valuable as the opposite, when the decision has been carefully informed and considered. With this in mind, Wine Australia will be an active partner in a cross-sectoral project to identify best practice monitoring and evaluation across extension activities, with the intention of taking a consistent and national approach across multiple providers which better supports bench-marking, progress reporting and continuous improvement and relies less on the binary 'did' or 'did not' adopt measure.
Performance Principle 3 **To undertake strategic and sustained cross-industry and cross-sectoral collaboration that addresses shared challenges and draws on experience from other sectors**		
3.1	Completed, current and future R&D including commercialisation opportunities are accessible through the growAG platform.	We have strongly engaged with growAG since its inception. As of June 2026, there were 113 Wine Australia projects and 3 live commercial opportunities listed on the growAG site plus 22 stories. Wine Australia commercial opportunities generated 13 enquiries directly through the site, the same as GRDC and surpassed only by the number of enquiries for Hort Innovation and Dairy Australia.

Performance Principle 3 To undertake strategic and sustained cross-industry and cross-sectoral collaboration that addresses shared challenges and draws on experience from other sectors		
3.2	Number and quantum of cross-industry and cross-sector RD&E investments available.	Wine Australia has the following significant cross-industry and cross-sector investments: • Wine Australia joined forces once again with Dairy Australia, Hort Innovation, Meat & Livestock Australia and Seafood Industry Australia (Australian Food and Wine Collaboration Group) for a series of market and trade events in South Korea on 25–26 February. This was the final sprint for the current pool of funding. Dairy Australia has successfully secured a grant to continue our activity beyond June 2026, restricted to activations in China. All Collaboration Group partners including Wine Australia contribute $40,000 p.a., with additional support from Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. • Wine Australia commenced two new cross-sectoral projects with the One Basin CRC this year. The 'size of the prize' seeks to establish the total emissions emerging from irrigation within the Murray-Darling Basin. Working group membership includes academia, irrigation trusts, private asset managers and Wine Australia. The 'Options Inventory' project, led by Wine Australia in partnership with a University of Melbourne PhD candidate, seeks to quantify current irrigation methods and assets used by One Basin CRC irrigators to better understand the energy efficiency opportunities available through large, medium and small-scale improvements, upgrades and replacement of on-farm irrigation assets. Total Wine Australia funding to the CRC is $1.5 million over 10 years. • Wine Australia partners with other RDCs, industries and researchers through CRC SAAFE on a project to advance diagnostics for fungicide resistance in mildews and rots effecting grapevines. These enhanced testing systems will enable early warning and epidemic monitoring, supporting informed decision-making for spray programs and disease management. Total Wine Australia funding to the CRC is $3 million over 10 years. • Wine Australia hosts the secretariat for the Council of Rural Research and Development Corporations (CRRDC), the CEO chairs the Executive group and Wine Australia collaborates on a number of cross-sectoral projects with the other RDCs. Investment is primarily in-kind. • Wine Australia continues to work with several partners in the timber and other industries to create alternative, low-emissions uses for end-of-life CCA posts through several aligned initiatives. The absence of a validated and commercially viable solution to landfill is a major barrier so Wine Australia submitted a $1M grant application to Australian Forest and Wood Innovations to co-fund a $2.2M program to evaluate and fund potential solution technology providers. The application was backed by the forestry and timber supply chain and would be supported with $0.8M from Wine Australia (including $0.2M from the SA Government). Wine Australia also facilitated another grant – submitted by Riverland Wine – to evaluate the commercial viability of a CCA-timber processing startup. Data from these projects (if they are funded) will inform business and logistics modelling being undertaken by the national product stewardship project. This project is the consequence of earlier work by Wine Australia. • Through partnerships with other RDCs, Wine Australia contributes to cross-industry initiatives that strengthen workforce capability, promote career pathways and increase engagement with primary industries. This includes participation in AgriFutures Australia's Emerging National Rural Industries (ENRI) workforce projects, along with collaborative efforts supporting the National Food and Fibre Education Strategy and the work of the Primary Industries Education Foundation Australia (PIEFA). Other cross-sector and cross-industry collaborations include: • The Plant Biosecurity Research Initiative, with other plant RDCs ($280,000 over five years), and the recently commissioned 'Building resilience for a chemically constrained future' project we're running on behalf of PBRI and the other plant RDCs with funding support from DAFF ($200,000 over 18 months). • The ARC Training Centre in Predictive Breeding for Agricultural Futures with other plant RDCs, organisations and providers ($80,000 over four years).

Table 14: Performance Principles

Performance Principle 4 For governance arrangements and practices to fulfil legislative requirements and align with contemporary Australian best practice for open, transparent and proper use and management of Funds		
4.1	Ongoing oversight, planning and reporting of investment activities is done in accordance with legislative and Australian Government requirements and timeframes.	Wine Australia maintains a robust governance framework that ensures a clear and consistent approach to governance across the organisation. Effective governance structures allow Wine Australia to manage affairs with proper oversight and accountability, to create value for stakeholders through sound investment and innovation and provide accountability and control systems commensurate with associated risks. They also ensure that all activities are undertaken in accordance with legislative and Australian Government requirements and timeframes.
4.2	Demonstrated management of financial and non-financial risk.	Wine Australia's Risk Management Policy and Framework (Framework) addresses all the elements of the Commonwealth Risk Management Policy. Financial and non-financial risks are monitored using this Framework. Our independently chaired Audit and Risk Committee considers new, emerging and developing strategic risks at each meeting, and the Board maintains oversight of the operational functionality pertaining to risk as prescribed in the Risk Management Policy and Framework. The Framework sets out a structure for monitoring and controlling risk across the organisation and articulates the roles of the Board, Audit and Risk Committee, Chief Risk Officer (CEO), Risk Management Committee, Risk Management Coordinator, Senior Executives, Risk Owners, Risk Control Owners, Treatment Owners, and employees in managing and reporting risks. Wine Australia maintains a suite of policies, registers, guidance and framework documents relating to risk and conducts regular reviews of all these policies. Wine Australia's risk management framework is aligned with and reflects existing standards and guidance such as AS/NZS ISO 31000:2018 – risk management – principles and guidelines and the Commonwealth Risk Management Framework guided by RMG-211. Wine Australia engages with risk in our operating environment to deliver programs that are innovative, efficient and dynamic. A positive risk culture promotes an open and proactive approach to managing risks. We recognise it is not possible, or necessarily desirable, to eliminate all risks inherent in our work. Accepting some degree of risk in our business practices promotes efficiency and innovation. Wine Australia is willing to accept higher levels of risk when the potential benefits outweigh the negative consequences of risks. In doing so, we must be able to demonstrate we have made informed, evidence and risk-based decisions. Wine Australia acknowledges that identifying opportunities and capitalising on those opportunities to improve the overall performance of Wine Australia is a key component of meeting its corporate goals.
4.3	Relevant policies and procedures adopted and implemented (e.g., privacy etc).	Wine Australia maintains a Governance Framework explaining Wine Australia's approach to corporate governance, including: • defining the roles of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO); and • setting the expectations of the CEO including those relating to reporting by the CEO to the Board. This Governance Framework complements: • Wine Australia's Board Charter, which sets out the function, duties and responsibilities of the Wine Australia Board and its Directors to promote and strengthen the management, accountability, performance, governance and strategic direction of Wine Australia; and • Wine Australia's Policy Governance and Probity Framework, which ensures that a clear and consistent governance and management approach is adopted when developing Wine Australia policies. In accordance with the Board Charter, the Board is responsible for approving policies. The Board may delegate the approval of operational policies at its discretion where such policies do not relate to probity, ethics, procurement or the management of intellectual property. Under the Governance Framework, Wine Australia maintains a full suite of policies, registers, guidance and framework documents and conducts regular reviews of all these policies. PN24 Personal Information Policy covers privacy. An externally facing privacy statement is also available on the Wine Australia website.

Table 14: Performance Principles

Performance Principle 4 **For governance arrangements and practices to fulfil legislative requirements and align with contemporary Australian best practice for open, transparent and proper use and management of Funds**		
4.4	Non-financial resources implemented effectively (Human resources, IT, IP etc).	Wine Australia maintains robust on-boarding and off-boarding procedures, has an employee Code of Conduct and Ethics, a performance management policy, a development, training and study policy, an acting role policy, a diversity, equity and inclusion policy, grievance and dispute resolution procedures, anti-bullying, harassment and discrimination policies, a drug and alcohol policy and a suite of WHS policies to support effective human resource management. Employee engagement surveys have been conducted at Wine Australia since 2018, using CultureAmp. All our staff completed the last employee survey in August 2025. The results, summarised below, are remarkable considering the difficult operating environment our staff have been working in for the past few years and are a testament to the extensive work we've needed to do to achieve this. This investment in resilience and psychosocial health is ongoing because conditions have not eased. The engagement score is 85%, which is 7% higher than in 2024 and 15% above benchmark. Strong results include: • 98% of staff would recommend Wine Australia as a great place to work, up 13%. • 87% of staff would like to be working at Wine Australia in two years' time, up 2% and 26% above benchmark. • 71% rarely think about looking for a job at another company, up 4% and 20% above benchmark. The overall psychosocial health score is 84%, 2% higher than in 2024. 90% of staff said overall they feel productive in their work, and they feel positive towards Wine Australia (up 3%). 61% of staff said they rarely feel overstressed by their work (down 8%), an area of focus. The overall inclusion score is 87%, which is 2% higher than in 2024 and 14% higher than benchmark. Over 89% of staff said they feel respected; they belong, and they can be their authentic selves (up 3%, 8% above benchmark). It is worth noting that 76% of staff feel safe to take risks (up 2%, 20% above benchmark). Intellectual Property is managed through an Intellectual Property Management Plan. Compliance with this policy ensures that IP arising from Wine Australia-funded activities is managed in a considered and controlled way that benefits the Australian grape and wine sector and the Australian community as a whole, while effectively managing risks. Effective management of IT is supported through an acceptable use of IT policy, a cyber security policy and a data breach response plan. The ICT strategy has been developed to reduce the physical hardware footprint to lessen the in-house maintenance overheads and provide a more robust technical environment from which Wine Australia can work reliably. This has largely been achieved by moving many infrastructure elements into the Microsoft Azure cloud. The Wine Australia cybersecurity strategy is heavily influenced by the Commonwealth's Australian Cybersecurity Centre Essential Eight principles. An internal Cybersecurity Group to interface between ICT, management and the Audit and Risk Committee ensures focus and momentum on cybersecurity.
Performance Principle 5 **To demonstrate positive outcomes and delivery of Research and Development Activities, Marketing Activities and associated benefits to Levy Payers, Charge Payers and the Australian community in general, and show continuous improvement in governance and administrative efficiency.**		
5.1	Impact (cost – benefit) assessment of a broad cross-section of RD&E [and marketing] investments undertaken annually.	Benefit–cost analysis of a selection of R&D investments has occurred annually for at least a decade. The last analysis was conducted on seven randomly selected Wine Australia R&I projects completed in 2024–25, as per the standard process agreed with all Research & Development Corporations (RDCs) by the Council of Rural RDCs. The full report of economic analyses can be downloaded here. Of note is that all projects assessed yielded positive results with benefit–cost ratios ranging from 1.1 to 6.1.

Table 14: Performance Principles

Performance Principle 5 To demonstrate positive outcomes and delivery of Research and Development activities, Marketing activities and associated benefits to Levy Payers, Charge Payers and the Australian community in general, and show continuous improvement in governance and administrative efficiency.		
5.2	Demonstrated consideration of and response to outcomes of monitoring and evaluation processes.	We monitor and evaluate our activities through several methods • Economic cost benefit analysis The results of annual post-hoc cost-benefit analyses are a standing agenda item for the Portfolio Review Committee of the Board as part of their review of the impact of Wine Australia's investment of levies. These analyses are also used to cross check whether assumptions about impact made prior to investing were valid. In those cases where the cost-benefit analysis suggests that the projected impact will be low, a more granular assessment of the project history and management is undertaken to understand whether this was due to poor initial assessment of likely impact, flaws in the project design, poor management or due to the inherent risk in undertaking research. This information is used for continuous improvement of our RD&A program activities and management. The data is also used by the Council of Rural Research & Development Corporations (CRRDC) to demonstrate the impact, effectiveness and return on investment from the Rural Research and Development Corporations (RDCs). • Post-event surveys The results of post-event surveys are used for continuous improvement for future events and to confirm that we are delivering value to the sector. All surveys following marketing activities include questions about whether participants believe their brand will benefit or has already benefited for participating in the activity and all following extension and adoption activities collect data on whether participants understand the potential benefits of adopting the changes or new technologies and how many of them have already done so. These are key metrics that inform the design of future events and activities. One example is the data collected pre and post wine education masterclasses and other education events. In 2025–26, our Wine Education Managers delivered 76 events, which included 2,949 unique wines across 665 brands from 46 regions, to showcase the quality and diversity of the Australian wine offer. Pre and post event attendee perception of Australian wine moved from 8.2 to 9.2 out of 10. • Annual Customer Engagement Stakeholder Surveys These surveys are a key barometer to the health of our relationships and engagement with our grape and wine sector stakeholders. In response to past survey results, we ‣ have repositioned our narrative around levy payers and impact to lead with our WHY – empowering profitable, resilient and sustainable grape and wine businesses – before explaining WHAT we do and HOW ‣ are rebuilding trust and connection with levy payers by shifting from broadcast communication to deliberate, two-way engagement – we now use proof rather than promises, and show where results have been achieved through case studies and quotes or data for example, rather than "Wine Australia did…" we say "producers from x region found…" ‣ are improving transparency and understanding with an increased focus on informing stakeholders about HOW decisions are made, not just WHAT is delivered – stakeholders now have a clearer understanding of Wine Australia's operating context, resulting in more realistic expectations and increased confidence in the integrity of decision-making ‣ are demonstrating value and impact through operationalising the Issue–Intent–Invest–Impact narrative, shifting engagement toward outcomes and value creation – attribution of impact to Wine Australia is improving, alongside recognition that levy investments are being applied in line with customer priorities, and ‣ redeveloping our website so that it will deliver a modern, reliable and customer-focused digital platform that improves access to information and services, supports transparency and provides better value for all levy payers and customers and capturing our customers interests so that newsletter content and other communication can be more tailored.

Table 14: Performance Principles

Performance Principle 5 To demonstrate positive outcomes and delivery of Research and Development activities, Marketing activities and associated benefits to Levy Payers, Charge Payers and the Australian community in general, and show continuous improvement in governance and administrative efficiency.		
5.3	Transparent communication to stakeholders (including government) on the impacts and benefits of the RD&E [and marketing] activities.	As noted above, we have implemented a more tailored and transparent approach to communications. Our regular communication with government includes monthly meetings with the DAFF Wine Policy Unit and sharing of media releases prior to their publication and notification of upcoming events with the DAFF Wine Policy Unit. Our communication with stakeholders focus on impact and value and include the following: • Webinars, videos and teams meeting presentations • New mediums under review: podcasts, apps or multimedia • Printed materials: Handouts, tools and resources at collective interest or project specific level, such as the Wine Australia Resource Guide and *OGWSP* state specific progress updates • Newsletters: Regular themed communications to our customers including corporate news (*Wine Australia News*), regulations (*Exporter News*), R&I (*R&I News*, *VitiSnips*, *On the Marc*), insights (*Market Bulletins*), and market news (*Global Market Opportunities*) and to trade (APAC, UK/EMEA, Americas).. • Website: Wine Australia; Australian Wine including Connect • Social media: Wine Australia LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram; Australian Wine Instagram, YouTube • Media releases: News announcements, holding statements and project milestone reporting as well as ongoing corporate affairs work for issues arising and/or for reputational risk management.

Key performance indicators

As per the Agriculture Portfolio Budget Statements 2025–26, we have six key performance indicators against which we measure and report our activities and outcomes in support of our strategic priorities and Australian Government priorities.

In 2025–26, outcomes continued to be impacted by a supply-demand imbalance (compounded by declining consumer demand globally), extreme weather events, geopolitical instability and economic and inflationary pressures.

The key performance indicators for 2025–26 and outcomes are detailed below.

Table 15: Performance against Agriculture Portfolio Budget Statements 2025–26 measures

Performance measures	Expected Performance Results	Outcomes in 2025–26
Overall customer satisfaction metrics.	We improve our customer satisfaction metrics from the baseline determined in 2025: • Importance of Wine Australia's services: 8.3/10 • Customer satisfaction that we're investing levies to deliver benefit to the sector: 5.3/10 • Effectiveness of our customer engagement: 42%	The Customer Survey data for 2026 which will measure the change in these metrics will be available in late October.
Use and perceived value of Wine Australia's marketing activities and events.	More than 70% of exhibitors (exporters/importers) that participate in Wine Australia's marketing activities and events believe that their business/brand will benefit or already has benefited from participating in the activity.	This measure is based on post-event exit interviews. In 2025–26 the survey was adjusted to differentiate between wineries and exhibitors. The satisfaction rates for these groups were 79% and 84% respectively.
Use and perceived value of Wine Australia's Market Insights information, services and reports.	The share of the sector who use Wine Australia's Market Insights information, services and reports and who believe the information will help them make better business decisions increases from the 2025 baseline: • 62% of sector use Market Insights • Of those who use the services, rate their confidence in this information helping them make better business decisions as 6.7/10 or higher.	The Customer Survey data for 2026 which will measure the change in these metrics will be available in late October.

Table 15: Performance against Agriculture Portfolio Budget Statements 2025–26 measures

Performance measures	Expected Performance Results	Outcomes in 2025–26
Understanding and adoption of new practices and technologies.	There is a demonstrated increase from the 2025 baseline in the number and diversity of producers who understand the potential benefits to their business of adopting new, relevant practice changes or technologies, as well the number adopting these innovations. The 2025 baseline data is as follows. Of the producers engaged in Wine Australia E&A activities: • 65% understand the potential benefits to their business of adopting new, relevant practice changes or technologies • 16% have adopted these innovations.	The Customer Survey data for 2026 which will measure the change in these metrics will be available in late October.
Perceived value and impact from research and innovation investments.	Sentiment regarding value and impact from research and innovation investments increases from the 2025 baseline: • Satisfaction that we are investing R&D levies to deliver benefit to the grape and wine sector: 4.6/10	The Customer Survey data for 2026 which will measure the change in these metrics will be available in late October.
Achievement of the key performance indicators in our Regulator Performance Framework.	We achieve the key performance indicators in our Regulator Performance Framework.	Achieved.

Financial overview

During 2025–26, Wine Australia recorded an operating surplus of $2.5 million.

Our revenue comes from two main sources: winegrape growers, processors and exporters who pay statutory levies, and the Australian Government, which matches levies invested in eligible Research, Development and Adoption (RD&A) activities.

There are three levies: the Wine Grape Levy and the Grape Research Levy, which are based on winegrape production, and the Wine Export Charge, which is based on the free on board (FOB) value of wine exports.

As of 1 January 2025, the Australian Government levy modernisation review of the Primary Industries Levies and Charges Disbursement Act 2024 now allows Commonwealth Matching to be claimed up to a maximum of 0.5 per cent of Gross Value of Production. This was previously capped at our accumulated levy income. During 2025–26, Wine Australia was able to access previous matching held by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, securing additional matching of approximately $2 million. This has allowed Wine Australia to boost reserves of non-levy funds for future RD&A investments.

Approximately 30 per cent ($15.7 million) of 2025–26 revenue came from the two levies and the Wine Export Charge and 28 per cent of revenue ($14.6 million) from the Australian Government matching contributions.

Revenue from regulatory fees made up 8 per cent ($4.0 million) of income, and activity-based user-pays wine sector contributions to marketing activities made up 5 per cent ($2.8 million) of total revenue for 2025–26.

Net assets were $13.5 million at 30 June 2026 (including the accessed additional Commonwealth Matching) and financial assets were $18.6 million, all of which was cash and receivables. Payables were $4.6 million.

Full details of our finances are included in the Financial Statements section of this report. An overview of expenditure and our outcomes delivered against the sectors priorities is provided in Figure 1 (pp 14–15).

Table 16: 2025–26 Revenue and expenditure

Revenue 2025–26	FY26
Levies	15,692,400
Commonwealth matching	14,593,937
Other external investment, including the Australian Wine Future Fund	3,075,407
Grants	11,663,637
Fees and charges	3,964,015
User Pays	2,839,036
Other	660,606
Total Income	**52,489,037**
Expenditure 2025–26	**FY26**
Research and Innovation	26,252,522
Marketing Development	9,417,195
Regulatory Services	4,337,608
Grants	10,000,000
Total Expenditure	**50,007,326**



Balanced portfolio

Wine Australia's *Strategic Plan 2025–30* guides the direction of our activities and expenditure and is informed by ongoing and extensive customer engagement and consultation to ensure alignment with the needs of the sector.

In 2025–26, we were able to develop our research and market development priorities based on:

- individual and group engagements with levy-paying customers
- regular meetings with the AGW Board and Executive
- teleconferences and face-to-face meetings with state and regional representative organisations.

Wine Australia's strategy, research and market development priorities are also shaped by input from AGW's Research Advisory Committee (RAC) and our Joint Marketing Group (JMG). Wine Australia staff also regularly present to and receive feedback from the AGW Membership Committees, particularly the Vignerons Committee, and participate in and contribute to most of the other AGW Committees: Wine Industry Technical Advisory Committee, Wine Industry Market Access Committee, National Wine Biosecurity Committee, Sustainability Advisory Committee, and Diversity, Inclusion and Equality in Wine Committee.

While we receive RD&E funding from two separate levies, we do not differentiate between viticultural and winemaking research as the distinction is artificial – viticultural research often has a winemaking outcome and winemaking research often requires viticultural input.

Instead, our RD&E investments aim to increase the sector's long-term profitability and sustainability, to benefit all levy payers and the wider community.

Our investments in 2025–26 ranged from short-term projects that will be completed in two years or less, to medium-term (two to four years) and long-term projects (over four years).

We also invested across different risk categories: low-risk applied RD&E, and medium- and higher-risk blue-sky research, where success is less assured, but outcomes could be very valuable to the sector.

In deciding which RD&E project applications to fund, we ranked proposals by likelihood of success as well as by their extension and adoption potential. This helps us assess each proposal based on the level of benefit that would be delivered to our levy payers and to the Australian wine community. The charts and tables on the following pages provide an overview of how our investments are allocated across project term, risk category, research type and geographical focus.

Table 17: Investment by project term 2025–26

R&I investment by project term	Number of projects		Actuals 2025–26 (million)	
Short (<2 years)	68	52%	$3.6	20%
Medium (2–4 years)	43	33%	$10.2	55%
Long (>4 years)	20	15%	$4.7	25%
Total	**131**	**100%**	**$18.5**	**100%**

Figure 5: Investment by project term (percentage of dollar value)

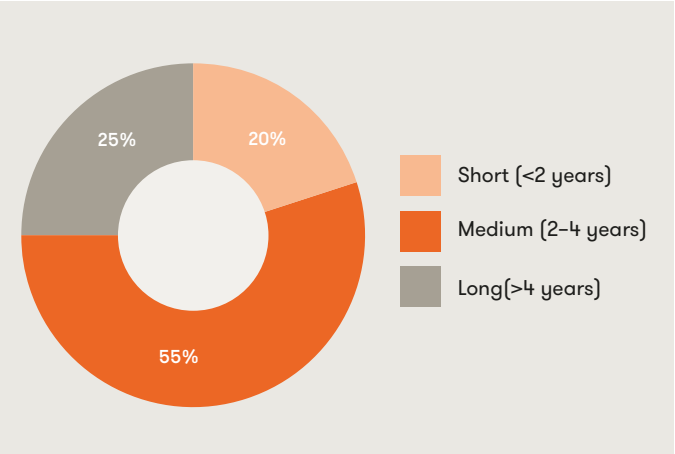


Table 18: Investment by risk category term 2025–26

R&I investment by project term	Number of projects		Actuals 2025–26 (million)	
Low	83	63%	$4.6	25%
Medium	34	26%	$10.5	57%
High	14	11%	$3.4	18%
Total	**131**	**100%**	**$18.5**	**100%**

Figure 6: Investment by risk category (percentage of dollar value)

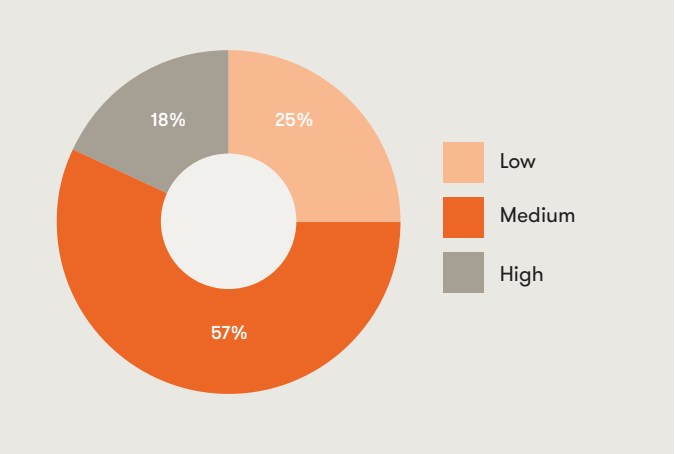


Table 19: Investment by research type 2025–26

R&I investment by research type	Number of projects		Actuals 2025–26 (million)	
Extension and adoption	53	40%	$2.8	15%
Capability	33	25%	$0.7	4%
Strategic	14	11%	$10.8	58%
Adaptive	31	24%	$4.2	23%
Total	**131**	**100%**	**$18.5**	**100%**

Figure 7: Investment by research type (percentage of dollar value)

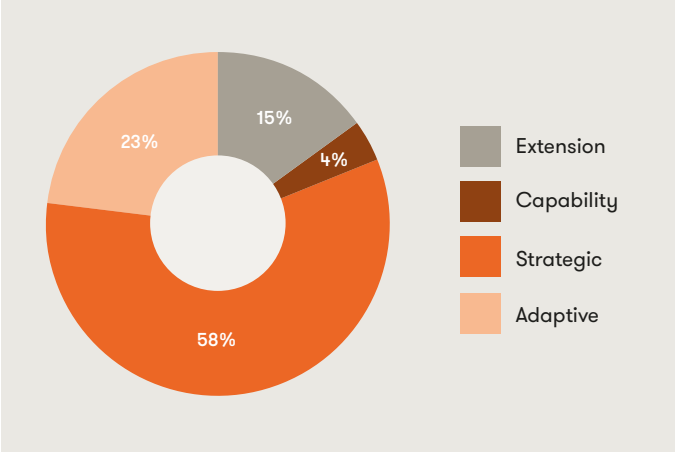
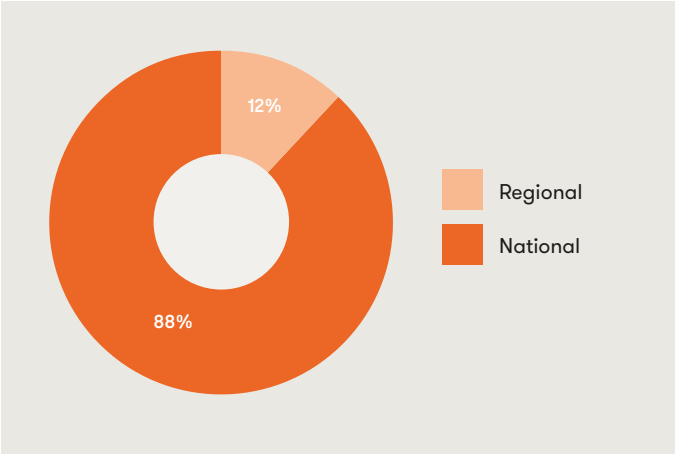


Table 20: Investment by geographical focus term 2025–26

R&I investment by geographical focus	Number of projects		Actuals 2025–26 (million)	
Regional	31	24%	$2.2	12%
National	100	76%	$16.3	88%
Total	**131**	**100%**	**$18.5**	**100%**

Figure 8: Investment by geographical focus (percentage of dollar value)



Alignment with Australian Government priorities

Our research program investment (including administrative expenses) aligned with the Australian Government's National Science and Research Priorities (Table 21) and National Agricultural Innovation Priorities (Table 22).

Table 21: Wine Australia research program spending aligned with the Australian Government's Science and Research Priorities 2025–26

National Science and Research Priorities	Number of projects		Actuals 2025–26 (million)	
1. Transitioning to a net zero future	12	9%	$0.3	2%
2. Supporting healthy and thriving communities	29	22%	$1.1	6%
3. Elevating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge systems	0	0%	$ -	0%
4. Protecting and restoring Australia's environment	21	16%	$3.0	16%
5. Building a secure and resilient nation	69	53%	$14.1	76%
Total	**131**	**100%**	**$18.5**	**100%**

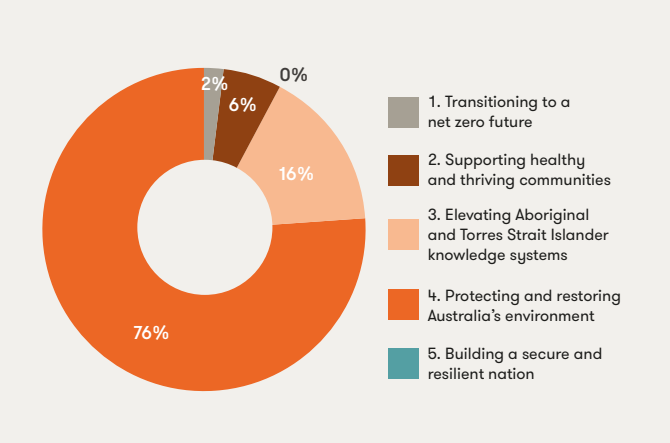
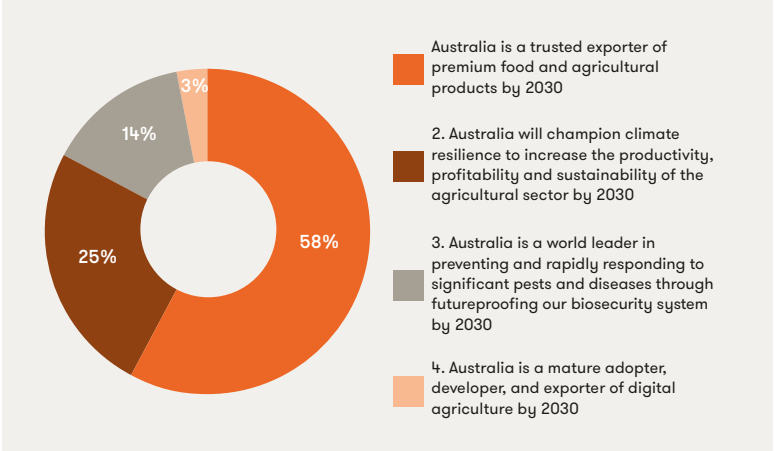


Table 22: Wine Australia research program spending aligned with the Australian Government's National Agricultural Innovation Priorities 2025–26

National Agricultural Innovation Priorities	Number of projects		Actuals 2025–26 (million)	
1. Australia is a trusted exporter of premium food and agricultural products by 2030	58	44%	$ 10.7	58%
2. Australia will champion climate resilience to increase the productivity, profitability and sustainability of the agricultural sector by 2030	48	37%	$ 4.7	25%
3. Australia is a world leader in preventing and rapidly responding to significant pests and diseases through futureproofing our biosecurity system by 2030	16	12%	$ 2.5	14%
4. Australia is a mature adopter, developer, and exporter of digital agriculture by 2030	9	7%	$ 0.6	3%
Total	**131**	**100%**	**$ 18.5**	**100%**





Financial statements

Australian Government

Wine Australia

Statement by the Accountable Authority, Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer

In our opinion, the attached financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026 comply with subsection 42(2) of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (PGPA Act), and are based on properly maintained financial records as per subsection 41(2) of the PGPA Act.

In our opinion, at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Wine Australia will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors.

Signed:



Dr Michele Allan AO
Chair of the Board of Wine Australia

Signed:



Dr Martin Cole
Chief Executive Officer

Signed:



Bernadette Saberton
Chief Financial Officer
(being the person responsible for the preparation of the financial statements)

22 September 2026

Australian National Audit Office

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements of Wine Australia (the Entity) for the year ended 30 June 2026:

(a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015*; and

(b) present fairly the financial position of the Entity as at 30 June 2026 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended.

The financial statements of the Entity, which I have audited, comprise the following as at 30 June 2026 and for the year then ended:

- Statement by the Accountable Authority, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer;
- Statement of Comprehensive Income;
- Statement of Financial Position;
- Statement of Changes in Equity;
- Cash Flow Statement; and
- Notes to and forming part of the financial statements, comprising material accounting policy information and other explanatory information.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Entity in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements for financial statement audits conducted by the Auditor-General and their delegates. These include the relevant independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) to the extent that they are not in conflict with the *Auditor-General Act 1997*. I have also fulfilled my other responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Accountable Authority's responsibility for the financial statements

As the Accountable Authority of the Entity, the Directors are responsible under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (the Act) for the preparation and fair presentation of annual financial statements that comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the rules made under the Act. The Directors are also responsible for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Directors are responsible for assessing the ability of the Entity to continue as a going concern, taking into account whether the Entity's operations will cease as a result of an administrative restructure or for any other reason. The Directors are also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the assessment indicates that it is not appropriate.

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Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Accountable Authority;
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Accountable Authority's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern; and
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Accountable Authority regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Australian National Audit Office



Michael Bryant

Senior Director

Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra

22 September 2026

Wine Australia

Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Notes	Actuals 2026 $	Actuals 2025 $	Budget 2026 $
Net cost of services				
Expenses				
Expenditure on research and development projects	1.1A	18,509,562	14,865,905	19,858,000
Employee benefits	1.1B	10,844,280	9,867,242	11,058,000
Suppliers	1.1C	8,703,377	8,108,715	9,062,000
Grants	1.1D	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000
Depreciation and amortisation	1.1E	426,674	1,149,366	402,000
Finance costs	1.1	5,324	10,818	9,000
Write-down of assets – Bad debts written off	1.1	19,853	10,488	11,000
Write-down and impairment of other assets	1.1	–	127	–
Net losses from foreign exchange – non speculative	1.1	31,302	49,561	–
Levy collection fees	1.1	1,466,954	950,495	809,000
Total expenses		**50,007,326**	**45,012,717**	**51,209,000**
Own-source income				
Own-source revenue				
Industry contributions	1.2A	15,692,400	15,734,092	16,613,000
Sale of goods and rendering of services	1.2B	6,826,148	6,925,833	7,710,000
Rental income	1.2C	–	3,850	4,000
Research and development contributions and other grants	1.2D	3,075,407	1,391,039	2,822,000
Interest	1.2E	632,418	670,254	60,000
Total own-source revenue		**26,226,373**	**24,725,068**	**27,209,000**
Gains				
Gains from sale of assets	1.2F	5,091	2,437	–
Total gains		**5,091**	**2,437**	**–**
Total own-source income		**26,231,464**	**24,727,505**	**27,209,000**
Net cost of services		**(23,775,862)**	**(20,285,212)**	**(24,000,000)**
Revenue from government				
Australian Government matching contributions	1.2G	14,593,937	9,677,636	14,000,000
Other grants from Government	1.2G	11,663,637	11,454,972	10,000,000
Total revenue from Government		**26,257,574**	**21,132,608**	**24,000,000**
Surplus attributable to the Australian Government		2,481,712	847,396	–
Total comprehensive surplus/(deficit) attributable to the Australian Government		**2,481,712**	**847,396**	**–**

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying Notes. Commentary on budget variances has been included in Other information within the Notes.

Wine Australia

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026

	Notes	Actuals 2026 $	Actuals 2025 $	Budget 2026 $
Assets		$	$	$
Financial assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	2.1A	15,836,879	14,895,520	9,140,000
Trade and other receivables	2.1B	2,792,360	2,637,224	1,769,000
Total financial assets		**18,629,239**	**17,532,744**	**10,909,000**
Non-financial assets				
Buildings (Right of Use)	2.2A	79,102	420,796	64,000
Minor plant and equipment	2.2A	112,918	193,791	135,000
Other intangibles	2.2A	592,763	43,220	–
Other non-financial assets	2.2B	622,615	1,125,798	297,000
Total non-financial assets		1,407,398	1,783,605	496,000
Total assets		**20,036,637**	**19,316,349**	**11,405,000**
Liabilities				
Payables				
Suppliers	2.3	854,514	395,592	1,255,000
Research and development contracts	2.3A	1,454,059	1,991,676	1,907,000
Other payables	2.3B	2,252,978	3,891,139	110,000
Total payables		4,561,551	6,278,407	3,272,000
Interest bearing liabilities				
Leases	2.4A	83,507	448,225	104,000
Total interest bearing liabilities		83,507	448,225	104,000
Provisions				
Employee provisions	4.1	1,817,806	1,497,656	1,784,000
Other provisions	2.5A	75,000	75,000	75,000
Total provisions		**1,892,806**	**1,572,656**	**1,859,000**
Total liabilities		**6,537,864**	**8,299,288**	**5,235,000**
Net assets		13,498,773	11,017,061	6,170,000
Equity				
Retained surplus		13,498,773	11,017,061	6,170,000
Total equity		**13,498,773**	**11,017,061**	**6,170,000**

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying Notes. Commentary on budget variances has been included in Other information within the Notes.

Wine Australia

Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Actuals 2026 $	Actuals 2025 $	Budget 2026 $
Retained earnings & total equity			
Opening balance			
Balance carried forward from previous period	11,017,061	10,169,665	6,170,000
Opening balance	**11,017,061**	**10,169,665**	**6,170,000**
Comprehensive income			
Surplus for the period	2,481,712	847,396	–
Total comprehensive income	**2,481,712**	**847,396**	**–**
Closing balance as at 30 June	**13,498,773**	**11,017,061**	**6,170,000**

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying Notes. Commentary on budget variances has been included in Other information within the Notes.



Wine Australia

Cash flow statement for the year ended 30 June 2026

	Notes	Actuals 2026 $	Actuals 2025 $	Budget 2026 $
Operating activities				
Cash received				
Australian Government matching contributions		14,364,755	9,668,522	14,000,000
Other receipts from Government		11,663,637	11,454,972	12,416,000
Industry contributions		16,055,558	15,318,190	14,197,000
Sale of goods and rendering of services		5,249,129	7,189,651	8,296,000
Rental income		–	4,235	–
Interest		632,418	670,254	60,000
Research and development contributions and refunds		3,382,947	1,530,142	2,822,000
Net GST received		1,885,659	1,669,193	2,106,000
Total cash received		**53,234,103**	**47,505,159**	**53,897,000**
Cash used				
Employees		(10,583,196)	(10,008,370)	(10,894,000)
Suppliers		(9,913,404)	(10,312,057)	(10,202,000)
Expenditure on research and development contracts and other grants		(30,877,542)	(25,686,562)	(32,279,000)
Borrowing costs		(5,324)	(10,818)	(9,000)
Total cash used		**(51,379,466)**	**(46,017,807)**	**(53,384,000)**
Net cash from operating activities		**1,854,637**	**1,487,352**	**513,000**
Investing activities				
Cash received				
Proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment		5,091	2,437	–
Total cash received		**5,091**	**2,437**	**–**
Cash used				
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		–	(198,106)	(110,000)
Purchase of intangibles		(553,650)	(39,113)	–
Total cash used		**(553,650)**	**(237,219)**	**(110,000)**
Net cash used by investing activities		**(548,559)**	**(234,782)**	**(110,000)**
Finance activities				
Cash used				
Principal payments of lease liabilities		(364,719)	(351,324)	(338,000)
Total cash used		**(364,719)**	**(351,324)**	**(338,000)**
Net cash used by finance activities		**(364,719)**	**(351,324)**	**(338,000)**
Net increase in cash held		**941,359**	**901,246**	**65,000**
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		14,895,520	13,994,274	9,075,000
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	**2.1A**	**15,836,879**	**14,895,520**	**9,140,000**

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying Notes. Commentary on budget variances has been included in Other information within the Notes.

Wine Australia

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2026

Overview

Objective of Wine Australia

Wine Australia is a Commonwealth Government statutory authority established under the *Wine Australia Act 2013*.

Wine Australia exists to better the knowledge, opportunities and excellence of the sector's people, processes and products so that levy payers can remain profitable, resilient and sustainable. Wine Australia aims to do this by investing in research and innovation (R&I), building markets, disseminating market information and knowledge, encouraging adoption and ensuring compliance through our regulatory functions. These core functions are defined by the *Wine Australia Act 2013*.

- Research, Innovation and Adoption to enhance global competitiveness, helping grape and wine businesses meet the challenges of tomorrow, today
- Market Development to increase the demand and premium paid for Australian wine across all markets by expanding market and promotion opportunities for Australian wine, and
- Regulatory Services to safeguard product integrity and uphold the sector's reputation by maintaining market confidence in the high standards expected of Australian wine.



The Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements and are required by section 42 of the *PGPA Act*.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- *section 42 of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015* (FRR); and
- Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations – including simplified disclosures for Tier 2 Entities under AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that apply for the reporting period.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and in accordance with the historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities at fair value. Except where stated, no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or the financial position. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars.

New Accounting Standards

Adoption of new Australian Accounting Standard requirements

All new, revised, amended standards and/or new, revised, amended interpretations applicable to the 2025–26 financial year did not have a material effect on Wine Australia's financial statements.

Taxation

Wine Australia is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) and the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Events after the reporting period

There have been no events after the reporting period that had the potential to significantly affect the ongoing structure and financial activities of Wine Australia.

Financial performance

This section analyses the financial performance of Wine Australia for the year ended 30 June 2026.

Note 1.1: Expenses

Accounting Policy – Expenses

Research and development contracts

Most research and development (R&D) contracts require the research provider to perform services, provide facilities or meet eligibility criteria. In these cases, liabilities are recognised only to the extent that the services required have been performed or the eligibility criteria have been satisfied by the research provider. In cases where R&D contracts are made without conditions to be monitored, liabilities relating to the financial year ending 30 June 2026 are recognised on signing of the contract.

Market research costs include data and contract work completed for our market insights program.

Employee benefits

Accounting policies for employee related expenses are contained in the People and Relationships section.

Suppliers

Short-term leases and leases of low-value assets

Wine Australia has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases of assets that have a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets (less than $10,000). The entity recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Grants

Grant liabilities are recognised to the extent that (i) the services required to be performed by the grantee have been performed or (ii) the grant eligibility criteria have been satisfied, but payments due have not been made. When the Government enters into an agreement to make these grants and services, but services have not been performed or criteria satisfied, this is considered a commitment.

Finance costs

All borrowing costs are expensed as incurred.

Foreign currency

Transactions denominated in a foreign currency are converted at the exchange rate from the beginning of each month. Foreign currency receivables and payables are translated at the exchange rates current as at balance date. Associated currency gains and losses are brought to account in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Levy collection fees

The levy collection fee is a charge from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry for the collection of various wine industry levies. The costs are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Comprehensive Income on a quarterly basis.

Note 1.1A: Expenditure on research and development projects

	2026 $	2025 $
Public sector		
Australian Government entities	2,279,996	391,007
State and territory governments	2,216,500	2,365,407
Universities and Colleges	131,737	406,603
Private sector		
The Australian Wine Research Institute	7,764,252	5,933,127
Other organisations	5,584,005	5,256,521
Market & consumer research costs	533,072	513,240
Total expenditure on research and development contracts	**18,509,562**	**14,865,905**

Note 1.1B: Employee benefits

	2026 $	2025 $
Wages and salaries	9,539,221	8,748,075
Superannuation:		
Defined contribution plans	896,975	780,182
Defined benefit plans	63,695	61,277
Leave and other entitlements	344,389	277,708
Total employee benefits	**10,844,280**	**9,867,242**

Note 1.1C: Suppliers

	2026 $	2025 $
Goods and services supplied or rendered		
Occupancy costs	49,730	49,468
Contractors	228,769	269,820
Communications	63,862	59,930
Information technology	2,074,864	2,068,853
Marketing costs	4,006,826	4,135,960
Outside services	84,557	115,171
Travel and accommodation	508,844	263,453
Professional fees	590,144	428,898
Publications and subscription	55,134	51,259
Postage and freight	28,920	36,059
Other supplier expenses	911,999	525,232
Total goods and services supplied or rendered	**8,603,649**	**8,004,103**
Other supplier		
Variable lease payments	7,922	16,392
Audit fees	47,500	46,300
Workers' compensation expenses (Comcare)	18,011	16,288
Liability insurance expenses (Comcover)	26,295	25,632
Total other supplier expenses	**99,728**	**104,612**
Total supplier expenses	**8,703,377**	**8,108,715**

Note 1.1D: Grants

	2026 $	2025 $
Wine Tourism and Cellar Door Grants	10,000,000	10,000,000
Total grants	**10,000,000**	**10,000,000**

Note 1.1E: Depreciation and amortisation

	2026 $	2025 $
Depreciation:		
Plant and equipment	80,873	75,803
Right-of-use assets and leasehold improvements	341,694	346,713
Total depreciation	**422,567**	**422,516**
Amortisation:		
Intangibles: computer software	4,107	726,850
Total amortisation	**4,107**	**726,850**
Total depreciation and amortisation	**426,674**	**1,149,366**

Note 1.2: Revenue

Accounting Policy – Revenue

Industry contributions

Industry contributions are recognised as revenue to the extent they have been received into Wine Australia's bank account or are entitled to be received by Wine Australia at year end.

Industry contributions comprise the:

- Grape Research Levy – a levy imposed under schedule 13 of the *Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Act 1999* in respect of fresh and dried grapes, and grape juice produced in Australia. This levy is collected and paid to Wine Australia by the Australian Government – Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. The levy rate is $2 per tonne, of which 1.6 cents per tonne is paid directly to Plant Health Australia.
- Wine Grapes Levy – a levy imposed under schedule 26 of the *Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Act 1999* in respect of the manufacture of wine. The levy rate is a stepped rate per tonne, of which 2.4 cents per tonne is paid directly to Plant Health Australia.
- Wine Export Charge – a levy imposed under schedule 13 of the *Primary Industries (Customs) Charges Act 1999* and calculated as a portion of the 'free on board' value of wine exported. This levy is collected by Wine Australia in accordance with a Collection Agreement entered into between Wine Australia and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in 2015, in accordance with section 11 of the *Primary Industries Levies and Charges Collection Act 1991*.

Revenue from Government

The matching contribution from the Australian Government is provided to fund grape and wine research. It is equal to half of the expenditure of Wine Australia (excluding levy collection fees) but limited to 0.5 per cent of the estimated gross value of industry production.

Other Australian Government grants are recognised when Wine Australia obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution, it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to Wine Australia, and the amount of the contribution can be measured reliably.

Sales of goods and rendering of services

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when control has been transferred to the buyer.

Wine Australia's additional service income is Export Approval Service Fees and Marketing related activities.

The transaction price is the total amount of consideration to which Wine Australia expects to be entitled in exchange for transferring promised goods or services to a customer. The consideration promised in a contract with a customer may include fixed amounts, variable amounts, or both.

Receivables for goods and services, which have 30-day terms, are recognised at the nominal amounts due less any impairment allowance account. Collectability of debts is reviewed at end of the reporting period. Allowances are made when collection of the debt is no longer probable.

Interest revenue

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method.

Rental income

Rental income arising from the sublease of a portion of the premises is recognised in revenue in the month that it relates to.

Sale of Assets

Gains from disposal of assets are recognised when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.



Note 1.2A: Industry contributions

	2026 $	2025 $
Grape research levy	2,921,763	2,656,173
Wine grape levy	10,177,212	10,047,810
Wine export charge	2,593,425	3,030,109
Total industry contributions	15,692,400	15,734,092

Note 1.2B: Sale of goods and rendering of services

	2026 $	2025 $
Rendering of services	6,826,148	6,925,833
Total sale of goods and rendering of services	6,826,148	6,925,833

Note 1.2C: Rental income

	2026 $	2025 $
Operating lease:		
Sublease	–	3,850
Total rental income	–	3,850

Note 1.2D: Research and development contributions and other grants

	2026 $	2025 $
Collaboration projects	3,075,407	1,391,039
Total research and development contributions and other grants	3,075,407	1,391,039

Note 1.2E: Interest

	2026 $	2025 $
Credit interest	632,418	670,254
Total interest	632,418	670,254

Note 1.2F: Other gains

	2026 $	2025 $
Gains from sale of assets	5,091	2,437
Total other gains	5,091	2,437

Note 1.2G: Revenue from Government

	2026 $	2025 $
Australian Government matching contributions	14,593,937	9,677,636
Wine Tourism and Cellar Door Grant program	10,000,000	10,000,000
Grape and Wine support package	1,643,637	1,075,892
Improving Market Transparency in Perishable Agricultural Goods Industries Program grant	–	289,080
Export Market Development Grant	20,000	90,000
Total revenue from Government	26,257,574	21,132,608

The *Primary Industries Levies and Charges Disbursement Act 2024* commenced on 1 January 2025, introducing a new agricultural levies legislative framework. A key change of the new legislation, is that Commonwealth Matching can now be claimed up to a maximum of 0.5% of the average Gross Value of Production (GVP), rather than be capped at total Research related levies.

Financial position

This section analyses Wine Australia's assets used to conduct its operations and the operating liabilities incurred as a result. Employee related information is disclosed in the People and relationships section.

Note 2.1: Financial assets

Accounting Policy – Financial assets

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is recognised at its nominal amount. Cash and cash equivalents includes:

- cash on hand
- demand deposits in bank accounts with an original maturity of 3 months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to insignificant risk of changes in value; and
- cash in special accounts.

Financial assets

Trade receivables, loans and other receivables that are held for the purpose of collecting the contractual cash flows where the cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest, that are not provided at below-market interest rates, are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method adjusted for any loss allowance.



Note 2.1A: Cash and cash equivalents

	2026 $	2025 $
Cash at bank	15,836,258	14,895,159
Cash on hand	621	361
Total cash and cash equivalents	**15,836,879**	**14,895,520**

Note 2.1B: Trade and other receivables

	2026 $	2025 $
Goods and services receivables		
Services	992,764	860,863
Total goods and services receivables	**992,764**	**860,863**
Other receivables		
Australian Government matching contributions receivable	324,103	94,921
GST receivable from the Australian Taxation Office	241,823	122,048
Industry contributions receivable	1,179,360	1,542,519
Other receivable	71,002	29,585
Total other receivables	**1,816,288**	**1,789,073**
Total trade and other receivables (gross) *Refer to Note 1.2: Accounting Policy – Revenue	**2,809,052**	**2,649,936**
Less expected credit loss allowance		
Services	(16,692)	(12,712)
Total trade and other receivables (net)	**2,792,360**	**2,637,224**
Trade and other receivables (net) aged as follows		
Not overdue	2,778,648	2,594,706
Overdue by:		
0 to 30 days	7,827	5,967
31 to 60 days	4,773	19,284
61 to 90 days	–	9,409
More than 90 days	1,112	7,858
Total trade and other receivables (net)	**2,792,360**	**2,637,224**

All trade and other receivables are expected to be settled within 12 months.

Note 2.2: Non-Financial assets

Accounting Policy – Non-financial assets

Assets are recorded at cost on acquisition except as stated below. The cost of acquisition includes the fair value of assets transferred in exchange and liabilities undertaken. Financial assets are initially measured at their fair value plus transaction costs where appropriate.

Assets acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, are initially recognised as assets and income at their fair value at the date of acquisition, unless acquired as a consequence of restructuring of administrative arrangements. In the latter case, assets are initially recognised as contributions by owners at the amounts at which they were recognised in the transferor's accounts immediately prior to the restructuring.

Asset recognition threshold – Minor Property Plant & Equipment

Purchases of property, plant and equipment are recognised initially at cost in the statement of financial position, except for purchases costing less than $1,000, which are expensed in the year of acquisition (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total). The initial cost of an asset includes an estimate of the cost of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located. This is particularly relevant to 'restoration' provisions taken up by Wine Australia where there exists an obligation to restore leased premises to original condition. The improvement costs are included in the value of Wine Australia's leasehold improvement with a corresponding provision for the 'make good' recognised.

Following initial recognition at cost, property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses, if any.

No indicators of impairment were found for plant or equipment.

No material plant and equipment assets are expected to be sold or disposed of within the next 12 months.

Lease Right of Use (ROU) Assets

Leased ROU assets are capitalised at the commencement date of the lease and comprise of the initial lease liability amount, initial direct costs incurred when entering into the lease less any lease incentives received. These assets are accounted for by Commonwealth lessees as separate asset classes to corresponding assets owned outright, but included in the same column as where the corresponding underlying assets would be presented if they were owned.

On initial adoption of AASB 16 Leases, Wine Australia has adjusted the ROU assets at the date of initial application by the amount of any provision for onerous leases recognised immediately before the date of initial application. Following initial application, an impairment review is undertaken for any right of use lease asset that shows indicators of impairment and an impairment loss is recognised against any right of use lease asset that is impaired. Lease ROU assets continue to be measured at cost after initial recognition in Wine Australia's financial statements.

Revaluations

Following initial recognition at cost, property, plant and equipment (excluding ROU assets) are carried at fair value (or an amount not materially different from fair value) less subsequent accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Valuations are conducted with sufficient frequency to ensure that the carrying amounts of assets did not differ materially from the assets' fair values as at the reporting date. The regularity of independent valuations depended upon the volatility of movements in market values for the relevant assets.

Revaluation adjustments are made on a class basis. Any revaluation increment is credited to equity under the heading of asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that it reversed a previous revaluation decrement of the same asset class that was previously recognised in the surplus/deficit. Revaluation decrements for a class of assets are recognised directly in the surplus/deficit except to the extent that they reversed a previous revaluation increment for that class.

Any accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the asset restated to the revalued amount.

Depreciation/amortisation

Depreciable property, plant and equipment assets are written-off to their estimated residual values over their estimated useful lives to Wine Australia using, in all cases, the straight-line method of depreciation. Leasehold improvements are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the lesser of the estimated useful life of the improvements or the unexpired period of the lease.

Depreciation rates (useful lives), residual values and methods are reviewed at each reporting date and necessary adjustments are recognised in the current, or current and future reporting periods, as appropriate.

Depreciation rates applying to each class of depreciable asset are based on the following useful lives:

Asset class	2026	2025
Leasehold improvements	Lease term	Lease term
Plant and equipment	3 years	3 years
Intangibles	3 to 5 years	3 to 5 years
Furniture and fittings	10 years	10 years

The Depreciation rates for ROU assets are based on the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the ROU asset or the end of the lease term.

Impairment

All cash-generating assets and assets held at cost, including intangibles and ROU assets, were assessed for impairment at 30 June 2026. Where indications of impairment exist, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated and an impairment adjustment made if the asset's recoverable amount is less than

its carrying amount. For non-cash generating assets held at fair value, the recoverable amount is expected to be materially the same as fair value at 30 June 2026.

The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs of disposal and its value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Where the future economic benefit of an asset is not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate future cash flows, and the asset would be replaced if Wine Australia were deprived of the asset, its value in use is taken to be its depreciated replacement cost.

Derecognition

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no further future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal.

Intangibles

Wine Australia's intangibles comprise internally developed software for internal use. These assets are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Software is amortised on a straight-line basis over its anticipated useful life. The useful lives of the Wine Australia's software are 3 to 5 years (2025: 3 to 5 years).

All software assets were assessed for indications of impairment as at 30 June 2026.

Prepayments

Prepayments are for goods or services that relate to future periods. They are expensed in the period of use.

Note 2.2A: Reconciliation of the Opening and Closing Balances of Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangibles

	Buildings (Right of Use) $	Leasehold improvements $	Plant and equipment $	Computer Software $	Total $
As at 1 July 2024					
Gross book value	1,598,009	882,710	488,797	4,964,161	7,933,677
Accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment	(1,177,213)	(882,710)	(295,006)	(4,920,941)	(7,275,870)
Total as at 1 July 2025	**420,796**	**–**	**193,791**	**43,220**	**657,807**
Additions:					
Purchase	–	–	–	–	–
Internally developed	–	–	–	553,650	553,650
Right-of-use assets	–	–	–	–	–
Other movements of right-of-use assets	–	–	–	–	–
Depreciation and amortisation	–	–	(80,873)	(4,107)	(84,980)
Depreciation on right-of-use assets	(341,694)	–	–	–	(341,694)
Disposals:					
Gross book adjustment	–	–	(36,325)	–	(36,325)
Accumulated depreciation adjustment	–	–	36,325	–	36,325
Total as at 30 June 2026	**79,102**	**–**	**112,918**	**592,763**	**784,783**
Total as at 30 June 2025 represented by					
Gross book value	1,598,009	882,710	452,472	5,517,811	8,451,002
Accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment	(1,518,907)	(882,710)	(339,554)	(4,925,048)	(7,666,219)
Total as at 30 June 2026	**79,102**	**–**	**112,918**	**592,763**	**784,783**

Note 2.2B: Other non-financial assets

	2026 $	2025 $
Prepayments	622,615	1,125,798
Total prepayments	**622,615**	**1,125,798**
Prepayments expected to be recovered		
No more than 12 months	622,615	1,102,471
More than 12 months	–	23,327
Total prepayments	**622,615**	**1,125,798**

No indicators of impairment were found for other non-financial assets.

Note 2.3: Payables

Accounting Policy – Payables

Suppliers and research and development contracts

All payables are expected to be settled within 12 months.

Settlement is usually made:

- net 14 days for research and development contracts on completion of milestones and receipt of a tax invoice, and
- net 30 days for all other suppliers.

Other payables

Other payables include grants received in advance and marketing-related revenue for events invoiced in advance.

Note 2.3A: Research and development contracts

	2026 $	2025 $
Accrued approved project expenses	1,454,059	1,991,676
Total research and development contracts	**1,454,059**	**1,991,676**

All research and development contracts payable are expected to be settled within 12 months.

Note 2.3B: Other payables

	2026 $	2025 $
Salaries and wages	33,050	61,396
Prepayments received/unearned income	2,219,928	3,829,743
Total other payables	**2,252,978**	**3,891,139**

All other payables are expected to be settled within 12 months.

Note 2.4: Interest bearing liabilities

Accounting Policy – Interest bearing liabilities

Leases

For all new contracts entered into, Wine Australia considers whether the contract is, or contains a lease. A lease is defined as 'a contract, or part of a contract, that conveys the right to use an asset (the underlying asset) for a period of time in exchange for consideration'. Once it has been determined that a contract is, or contains a lease, the lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments unpaid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease, if that rate is readily determinable, or Wine Australia's incremental borrowing rate. Subsequent to initial measurement, the liability will be reduced for payments made and increased for interest. It is remeasured to reflect any reassessment or modification to the lease. When the lease liability is remeasured, the corresponding adjustment is reflected in the right-of-use asset or profit and loss depending on the nature of the reassessment or modification.

Note 2.4A: Leases

	2026 $	2025 $
Lease Liabilities	83,507	448,225
Total leases	83,507	448,225
Total leases are expected to be settled in:		
Within 1 year	83,507	332,616
Between 1 to 5 years	–	115,609
Total leases	**83,507**	**448,225**

Total cash outflow for leases for the year ended 30 June 2026 was $370,042 (2025: $362,142)

Note 2.5: Provisions

Accounting Policy – Other Provisions

Makegood

Wine Australia currently has one agreement for the leasing of premises which have provisions requiring Wine Australia to restore the premises to their original condition at the conclusion of the lease. Wine Australia has made a provision to reflect the present value of this obligation.

Note 2.5A: Other provisions

	Provision for restoration	Provision for restoration
As at 1 July 2025	75,000	75,000
Additional provisions made	–	–
Amounts used:	–	–
Amounts reversed	–	–
Unwinding of discount or change in discount rate	–	–
Total as at 30 June 2026	**75,000**	**75,000**

All other provisions are expected to be settled in more than 12 months.

	Provision for restoration	Provision for restoration
Total other provisions are expected to be settled in:		
No more than 12 months	75,000	75,000
More than 12 months	–	–
Total other provisions	**75,000**	**75,000**



Funding

This section identifies Wine Australia's funding structure.

Note 3.1: Regulatory charging summary

	2026 $	2025 $
Expenses		
Departmental – Direct costs	2,247,738	2,488,252
Departmental – Indirect costs	2,024,674	1,959,514
Total expenses	**4,272,412**	**4,447,766**
External revenue		
Departmental – Sale of goods and rendering of services	4,017,440	4,493,545
Total external revenue	**4,017,440**	**4,493,545**
Amounts written off		
Departmental – amounts written off	7,893	6,528
Total amounts written off	**7,893**	**6,528**

Regulatory charging activities:

Under s. 8(f) and (g) of the Act, Wine Australia can charge to provide services, such as its export control and certification activities.

Regulation 7(a) requires exporters to be licenced, 14(b) requires wines to be assessed as sound and merchantable and Regulation 20 requires export permits to be issued by Wine Australia before wine can be exported. Furthermore s. 8(c) of the Act provides Wine Australia the power to issue certificates required to demonstrate that wine meets the requirements of the market to which Australian wine is exported.

The fees are designed to cover the costs incurred in conducting Wine Australia's export control activities and includes provision for ongoing maintenance, upgrades and enhancements of the Wine Australia Licensing and Approval System (WALAS).

Documentation (Cost Recovery Implementation Statement/s) for the above activities is available at www.wineaustralia.com/about-us/performance-and-reporting.

People and relationships

This section describes a range of employment and post-employment benefits provided to our people and our relationships with other key people.

Note 4.1: Employee provisions

Accounting Policy

Liabilities for short-term employee benefits and termination benefits expected within twelve months of the end of reporting period are measured at their nominal amounts.

Other long-term employee benefits are measured as net total of the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the end of the reporting period minus the fair value at the end of the reporting period of plan assets (if any) out of which the obligations are to be settled directly.

Leave

The liability for employee benefits includes provision for annual leave and long service leave.

The leave liabilities are calculated on the basis of employees' remuneration at the estimated salary rates that will be applied at the time the leave is taken, including Wine Australia's employer superannuation contribution rates to the extent that the leave is likely to be taken during service rather than paid out on termination.

The liability for long service leave has been determined by reference to the work of an actuary as at 30 June 2026. The estimate of the present value of the liability takes into account attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation.

Separation and redundancy

Provisions are made for separation and redundancy benefit payments. Wine Australia recognises a provision for termination when it has developed a detailed formal plan for the terminations and has informed those employees affected that it will carry out the terminations.

Superannuation

Other than a small number of staff who are members of the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme (PSS), Wine Australia's Australian-based staff are members of defined contribution superannuation funds held outside the Australian Government.

The PSS is a defined benefit scheme for the Australian Government. The liability for defined benefits is recognised in the financial statements of the Australian Government and is settled by the Australian Government in due course. This liability is reported in the Department of Finance's administered schedules and notes.

Wine Australia makes employer contributions to the employees' defined benefit superannuation scheme at rates determined by an actuary to be sufficient to meet the current cost to the Government. Wine Australia accounts for the contributions as if they were contributions to defined contribution plans.

Wine Australia had no liability for superannuation recognised as at 30 June 2026 as outstanding contributions.

Note 4.1: Employee provisions

	2026 $	2025 $
Leave	1,817,806	1,497,656
Employee provisions are expected to be settled in:		
No more than 12 months	1,307,789	980,496
More than 12 months	510,017	517,160
Total employee provisions	**1,817,806**	**1,497,656**

Note 4.2: Key management personnel remuneration

Accounting Policy

Liabilities for short-term employee benefits and termination benefits expected within twelve months of the end of reporting period are measured at their nominal amounts. Other long-term employee benefits are measured as net total of the present value at the end of the reporting period minus the fair value at the end of the reporting period of plan assets (if any) out of which the obligations are to be settled directly.

Key management personnel (KMP) are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of Wine Australia, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) of Wine Australia. Wine Australia has determined the KMP to be the Directors, Executive Officers and General Managers. KMP remuneration is reported in the table next column:

	2026 $	2025 $
Short-term employee benefits	2,098,552	1,996,989
Post-employment benefits	260,608	245,491
Other long-term employee benefits	67,733	39,679
Total key management personnel remuneration expenses	2,426,893	2,282,159

The total number of KMP that are included in the above table are 13 (2025:13).

Note: The above KMP remuneration excludes the remuneration and other benefits of the Portfolio Minister. The Portfolio Minister's remuneration and other benefits are set by the Remuneration Tribunal and are not paid by Wine Australia.



Note 4.3: Related party disclosures

Accounting Policy

Wine Australia is an Australian Government controlled entity. Related parties to the entity are Directors and Key Management Personnel, and other Australian Government Entities.

Transactions with related parties

The following transactions with related parties occurred during the financial year:

Wine Australia Chair, Dr Michele Allan AO, is a director or member of the following organisations, and the funding provided to those, are;

- Charles Sturt University – Chancellor ($21,088)
- Queensland University of Technology – Member of Trailblazer FABA Steering Committee ($0)

Liz Riley is a director or member of the following organisations, and the funding to provided to those, are:

- Vitibit Pty Ltd ATF Scarborough Family Trust – Non-Executive Director ($55,848)
- Freshcare Ltd – Non-Executive Director ($0)
- CRC SAAFE – Non-Executive Director ($300,000)
- Landcare NSW and Hunter Valley Wine Country Landcare – Non-Executive Director ($0)
- Viticulture Australia — General committee member ($0)
- Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association – Corporate Partner ($0)
- Australian Grape & Wine – Affiliate Member ($222,217)
- Australian Society of Viticulture & Oenology – Professional Member ($36,040)
- Nuffield Australia – Alumni and Member ($0)
- NSW Farmers – Associate Member ($0)
- Plant Health Australia ($7,167)

Angeline Achariya serves on the board of the Australian Institute of Food Science and Technology in which Wine Australia CEO Martin Cole is a paid member.

Wine Australia Independent Audit and Risk Chair, Geoff Knuckey, also Chairs the Audit and Risk Committees of Fisheries Research and Development Corporation, National Archive of Australia and CSIRO. CSIRO has multi-year research agreements with Wine Australia and received funding of $2,279,996.

Wine Australia Independent Portfolio Review Chair, John Lloyd, is also a Director or Member of Charles Sturt University (CSU), Meat & Livestock Australia and Elders. CSU has multi-year research agreements with Wine Australia and received funding of $21,088.

All agreements were approved in accordance with Wine Australia's procurement policy.

All amounts disclosed are GST exclusive and balances outstanding at year end amounted to $50,000 for Australian Grape and Wine.

Managing uncertainties

This section analyses how Wine Australia manages financial risks within its operating environment.

Note 5.1: Contingent Assets and Liabilities

Accounting Policy

Contingent liabilities and contingent assets are not recognised in the statement of financial position but are reported in the notes. They may arise from uncertainty as to the existence of a liability or asset or represent an asset or liability in respect of which the amount cannot be reliably measured. Contingent assets are disclosed when settlement is probable but not virtually certain and contingent liabilities are disclosed when settlement is greater than remote.

At 30 June 2026, Wine Australia had no contingent assets or liabilities, this being consistent with 30 June 2025.

Note 5.2: Financial instruments

Accounting Policy

Financial assets

In accordance with AASB 9 Financial Instruments, Wine Australia classifies its financial assets at amortised cost.

The classification depends on both Wine Australia's business model for managing the financial assets and contractual cash flow characteristics at the time of initial recognition. Financial assets are recognised when Wine Australia becomes a party to the contract and, as a consequence, has a legal right to receive or a legal obligation to pay cash and derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are transferred upon trade date.

Financial Assets at Amortised Cost

Financial assets included in this category need to meet two criteria:

1. the financial asset is held in order to collect the contractual cash flows; and
2. the cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest (SPPI) on the principal outstanding amount.

Amortised cost is determined using the effective interest method.

Effective Interest Method

Income is recognised on an effective interest rate basis for financial assets that are recognised at amortised cost.

Impairment of Financial Assets

Financial assets are assessed for impairment at the end of each reporting period based on Expected Credit Losses, using the general approach which measures the loss allowance based on an amount equal to lifetime expected credit losses where risk has significantly increased, or an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses if risk has not increased. The simplified approach for trade, contract and lease receivables is used. This approach always measures the loss allowance as the amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses. A write-off constitutes a derecognition event where the write-off directly reduces the gross carrying amount of the financial asset.

Note 5.2A: Categories of financial instruments

	2026 $	2025 $
Financial assets at amortised cost		
Cash and cash equivalents	15,836,879	14,895,520
Industry contributions receivables	1,179,360	1,542,519
Other receivables	1,063,766	890,448
Total financial assets at amortised cost	18,080,005	17,328,487
Total financial assets	**18,080,005**	**17,328,487**
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost:		
Suppliers	854,514	395,592
Research and development contracts	1,454,059	1,991,676
Total financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	2,308,573	2,387,268
Total financial liabilities	**2,308,573**	**2,387,268**

Wine Australia has no reclassifications or remeasurements of financial assets to disclose.

Note 5.2B: Net gains or losses on financial assets

	2026 $	2025 $
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		
Interest revenue	632,418	670,254
Exchange losses	(31,302)	(49,561)
Net gains on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	601,116	620,693
Net gains on financial assets	**601,116**	**620,693**

Other information

Note 6.1: Current/non-current distinction for assets and liabilities

	2026 $	2025 $
Assets expected to be recovered in:		
No more than 12 months		
Cash and cash equivalents	15,836,879	14,895,520
Trade and other receivables	2,792,360	2,637,224
Buildings (Right of Use)	79,102	–
Minor plant and equipment	–	–
Intangibles	–	–
Prepayments	622,615	1,102,471
Total no more than 12 months	**19,330,956**	**18,635,215**
More than 12 months		
Cash and cash equivalents	–	–
Trade and other receivables	–	–
Buildings (Right of Use)	–	420,796
Minor plant and equipment	112,918	193,791
Intangibles	592,763	43,220
Prepayments	–	23,327
Total more than 12 months	**705,681**	**681,134**
Total assets	**20,036,637**	**19,316,349**
Liabilities expected to be settled in:		
No more than 12 months		
Suppliers	854,514	395,592
Grants	1,454,059	1,991,676
Other payables	2,252,978	3,891,139
Leases	83,507	332,616
Employee provisions	1,307,789	980,496
Other provisions	–	–
Total no more than 12 months	**5,952,847**	**7,591,519**
More than 12 months		
Suppliers	–	–
Grants	–	–
Other payables	–	–
Leases	–	115,609
Employee provisions	510,017	517,160
Other provisions	75,000	75,000
Total more than 12 months	**585,017**	**707,769**
Total liabilities	**6,537,864**	**8,299,288**

Note 6.2: Budget Variances Commentary

Explanations of major variances	Affected line items (and statement)
Industry Levies The Portfolio Budget Statement (PBS) included income of levies for the 1.57 million tonne 2025 vintage. At the end of financial year, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry advised there was over $500,000 in uncollected levies related to the 2025 vintage. This is not recognised in Wine Australia's Financial Statements as income nor receivables owing.	• Statement of Comprehensive Income – Revenue • Cash Flow Statement
Commonwealth Matching Income/Cash and cash equivalents The overall cash balance reflects the variance in results between actuals and budgeted. The main additional cash injection was the release of Commonwealth Matching that was owed for historic claims, this was due to the Primary Industries Levies and Charges Disbursement Act 2024 changes.	• Statement of Comprehensive Income – Income • Cash Flow Statement
Sale of goods and services/Trade and other receivables The Portfolio Budget Statement (PBS) included estimates of revenue for Marketing and Export Regulations. The year continued to decline in Exports with reduced export licences as well as shipment and certificate applications.	• Statement of Comprehensive Income – Revenue • Statement of Financial Position – Financial assets
Interest The Portfolio Budget Statement (PBS) was based on interest earnt on a lower cash balance, and at low interest rate. The actual interest earnt was quite significant in percentage and in dollar value throughout the year.	• Statement of Comprehensive Income – Revenue • Cash Flow Statement
Other grants from Government/Other payables The variance in income and expenditure relating to grants was the carry-over of unspent funds of the Grape and Wine Support Package, which was partially recognised in line with expenditure this financial year, and remaining carried-over into the next financial year.	• Statement of Comprehensive Income – Income • Statement of Comprehensive Income – Expenses • Statement of Financial Position – Liabilities Cash Flow Statement
Retained surplus/Reserves Reserves are split between Research and Innovation, Marketing and Regulatory Services, in line with our minimum reserves policy. Excess reserves are held in Market Development due to receiving Government funding. Wine Australia can continue to service these in the future with reserves. Regulatory Services holds minimal excess reserves which will be used to enhance the WALAS system in the future. Research and Innovation reserves includes Commonwealth Matching received by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries from prior periods. These reserves will be partially used in 2026–27 in order to continue to service the Industry with current programs with a large anticipated reduction in Levy income.	• Statement of Comprehensive Income – Surplus/(Deficit) • Changes in Equity



Appendices



Appendix I: R&I funded projects

Project Number	Title	Funding/returns for 2025–26 $
Our place and product		
ACC 2501	Provision of annual climate statistics for Australian GI regions	$2,370
CSA 2401	Lower alcohol wine production through application of sugar reduction technology to grape juice	($63,800)
DAFF NVR	National Vineyard Register Development	$401,912
UA 1803	Strategic Research Agreement – University of Adelaide	($171,032)
VHA 2601	National Vineyard Register	$200,000
WA 2404	Grape Production Ready Reckoner	$186
WAC 2420	DAFF/AgriFutures Diversification Project (refer DAFF 2400)	$58,750
WAC 2518	Workshop for warm inland 'wine style ladder' problem identification	$1,516
AWR 2202-3.3.2	Single-step heat and cold stabilisation	$258,227
AWR 2202-3.3.3	Smart surfaces	$349,038
AWR 2202-3.1.4	NOLO Pre-bottle stability	$297,338
AWR 2202-3.3.8	Vineyard virus LAMP	$235,763
AWR 2202-3.3.9	Novel breeding techniques	$227,706
AWR 2202-2.1.1	Volatile compound insights: Flavour attributes of current and future commercial significance to growers and winemakers	$619,486
AWR 2202-2.3.1	Fermentation management through optimal microbial consortia	$550,941
AWR 2202-2.4.1	Addressing production challenges through the management of wine non-volatiles	$366,876
AWR 2202-2.5.1	Wine components and interactions influencing the in-mouth sensory properties of Australian wine	$351,384
AWR 2202-2.6.1	Transformative microbiological inputs for innovative winemaking	$548,353
Our markets		
AGW 2501	Investigate market access impediments and opportunities for Australian wine by attendance at meetings of the International Organisation of Vine and Wine (OIV)	$100,000
AWR 2202-1.1.1	Collecting and disseminating information on agrochemicals	$169,142
AWR 2401	AWRI Market Access Activities	$175,000
MI ED	Market insights – export Data	$467,072
TV 2502	Advisory services for venture investment opportunities	$180,000
WAC 2511	Developing a category proposition for Australian mid-strength wine (refer DAFF 2400)	$26,525
Our consumers, customers and community		
MI CD	Market insights – Consumer Data	$66,000
WAC 2509	Wine sector economic contribution study	$33,466
Our sustainability		
AMA 2401	Molecularly Imprinted Polymers (MIPs) for smoke impact remediation of wine	$61,628
AMA 2601	amaea CSx for cold stabilisation of wine	$106,500
AVR 2401	Development and adoption of new tools for the surveillance and management of grapevine phylloxera	$577,734
AVR 2402	Best practice sampling and virus detection in Australian grapevine propagation assets	$366,812
AWR 2202-3.2.8	Wastewater desalination	$196,213
AWR 2202-3.2.9	Yeast lees recycling	$191,763
AWR 2202-2.2.1	Genetic diversity of Australian wine grapevine germplasm	$194,931
CHA 2501	Efficacy of hot water treatment for management of crown gall pathogens in grapevine propagation material	$8,278
CHR 2501	Research wines to support Wine Australia investments in smoke taint management	$18,000
CSA 2301-1	Enabling technologies for production of improved clones of existing premium winegrape varieties using 'DNA-free' gene-editing	$807,586

Project Number	Title	Funding/returns for 2025–26 $
CSA 2301-2	Premium winegrape varieties with improved fungal pathogen tolerance and quality traits through gene-editing	$903,221
CSA 2301-3	Durable pest resistant grapevine rootstocks and germplasm evaluation	$632,989
DPI 2201	NSW DPI evaluation of second-generation disease resistant grapevines developed by CSIRO	$149,103
DPI 2501	Western Australia Germplasm Relocation Activity	$40,000
EDG 2501	Development of an Ethical Business Guide – Building Human Rights Leadership across the wine sector	$98,150
ESG 2501	Emissions management and sequestration in the Australian grape and wine sector – A gaps analysis Part A: Desktop review and sustainability scan	$28,000
ESG 2502	Emissions management and sequestration in the Australian grape and wine sector – A gap analysis Part C: Identifying methods to improve the accuracy, availability and validity of grape and wine transport emissions data	$30,000
ESG 2503	Emissions management and sequestration in the Australian grape and wine sector – A gap analysis Part B: Identifying stakeholder needs and opportunities	$45,000
ESG 2601	Australian wine sector emissions baseline update – 2024/25	$67,750
ESG 2602	Sustainable Wine Roundtable – development of a sustainable packaging resource	$40,000
ESG 2603	Natural capital and carbon farming outcomes	$30,750
FOV 2501	National Grapevine Collection Coordinator	$120,777
FOV 2502	Vine Integrity and Security Collection (VISC) pilot project – production of mothervines	$4,705
GIA 2601	Development of the NIASA Grapevine Nursery Stock Specification for VitiCert Australia	$47,000
HIA 2301	Plant Biosecurity Research Initiative Phase III Collaboration and Funding Agreement 2023-2028	$56,742
HIA 2501	PBRI Xylella Scenario Planning Exercise	$5,000
HIA 2502	Biosecurity Trakka – near real-time diagnosis and monitoring for plant biosecurity threat	$30,000
LTU 2501	AEA Innovate Grant WISDs – Incidentals	$1,069
LTU 2501	Development, validation and scale-up of smoke taint prediction technology for the Australian wine industry and wine producers globally	$230,900
LTU 2601	Large-scale production of smoke-tainted wines as a research resource and for winery remediation trials	$40,000
PHA 2501	Xylella simulation workshop activity	$4,967
QUT 2601	Portable smoke taint sensors for wine industry	$10,000
RV 2101	National EcoVineyards Program	$38,745
SAR 1701	Strategic Research Agreement	$977,650
SAR 2601	Advancing knowledge on crown gall pathogens and management in young vines	$105,016
SGA 2601	Global scan of innovative crop protection technologies and access barriers for Australian plant industries	$100,420
SWA 2501	Sustainable Winegrowing Australia (SWA) Program Governance and Funding Agreement	$927,287
UA 2502	Vine Integrity and Security Collection (VISC) pilot project – tissue culture and evaluation	$10,800
UA 2503	Manufacturing of advanced green lixiviant from biomass resources for circular critical metal production and recovery	$10,000
USC 2301	CCA Post Project	$50,000
WA 2201	One Basin CRC Partnership Agreement	$150,000
WA 2301	CRC SAAFE – Major Partners Agreement	$300,000
WA 2501	Electrification of Vineyard Practices (AgVic Funding Agreement OPP-77299)	$426
WAC 2505	Act as Chairperson of the Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC)	$3,150
WAC 2512	Digital illustrations of the Australian Sustainability Reporting Standards	($73)
WAC 2516	Emissions reduction initiatives video – Tasmania	$1,400
WAC 2517	The inland wine regions energy savings pilot	$16,408
WAC 2520	Emissions reduction initiative video – Margaret River	$1,400
WWA 2501	Western Australia Sustainability Program	$445,000
WWA 2502	Western Australia lightweight bottle campaign	$7,000

Project Number	Title	Funding/returns for 2025–26 $
Our People		
WAA	AgTech Program	$2,799
AS	Alumni Support	$42,263
ASV 2401	Establish the Rootlings – national wine sector youth network program	$100,000
ASV 2402	ASVO Sponsorship Agreement – Awards for Excellence and Next Generation Student Bursary programs	$25,000
ASV 2601	ASVO Forum	$78,185
AWR 2202-1.2.2	Communications to industry	$273,000
AWR 2202-1.3.1	Helpdesk	$844,816
AWR 2202-1.4.2	Library and information services	$293,134
AWR 2202-1.5.1	Grape and wine behavioural science	$181,340
AWR 2202-2.7.1	Impact Project Facilitator	$397,606
EA 2604	Science communication support – web copy development	$56,750
EA 2606	Master Facilitator for Wine Australia Communities of Practice	$97,385
EA 2607	VitiSynth	$28,693
EA 2608	Communities of Practice Project Management	$14,970
EA 2609	National Advisor Network (NAN) Facilitation Day	$91,621
GHD 2501	Benefit Cost Analysis of R&I Investments	$58,280
GRP 2301	Regional Plan – NSW and ACT 2023–2028	$175,000
GRP 2302	Regional Plan – Greater Victoria 2023–2028	$25,000
GRP 2303	Regional Plan – Tasmania 2023–2028	$24,956
GRP 2304	Regional Plan – SA North 2023–2028	$50,000
GRP 2305	Regional Plan – Murray Valley 2023–2028	$116,180
GRP 2306	Regional Plan – Limestone Coast 2023–2028	$50,000
GRP 2307	Regional Plan – SA Central 2023–2028	$50,000
GRP 2308	Regional Plan – Western Australia 2023–2028	$50,000
GRP 2309	Regional Plan – Queensland 2023–2028	$25,000
GRP 2310	Regional Plan – Riverland 2023–2028	$167,500
MVW 2301	Collaboration Agreement – Support for Industry Development Officer in Murray Valley	$181,767
NSK 2501	National Skills Week Sponsorship	$22,538
PD 2501	Great Wine Capitals Bursaries	$11,319
PD 2602	Jane Thomson attendance at CSW70 in New York	$10,000
PD 2603	2026 Next Crop Program – Hunter Valley	$27,500
PD 2604	2026 Next Crop Program – McLaren Vale	$27,500
PD 2605	2026 Next Crop Program – Riverland	$42,500
PD 2608	Gender Equity Toolkit webinar and OIV presentation – Emily Hay	$3,200
RWG 2501	Support for an Extension/Sustainability Officer in Riverina region	$50,000
UA 2501	Further Afield Travel Scholarship	$15,000
UA Ph2104	Examining consumer acceptance of alternative and gene-edited traditional grape varieties	$16,250
UA Ph2105	Defining the diversity and the potential applications of yeasts from Australian niches	$40,000
UQ 2401	Collaborative Research Agreement – ARC Training Centre in Predictive Breeding for Agricultural Futures	$20,000
WA 1903	Workshop at Australian Wine Industry Tech Conference	$31,507
WA Found	WA Foundation work	$313
WA Ph2000	Implementation of agroecological practices in viticulture: Identification of factors that motivate or constrain uptake (Johnson, Anne)	($18,745)
WA Ph2200	Rapid analytical methods for early detection of smoke taint in grape juice.	$10,137
WA Ph2203	Monitoring Avian Functional Diversity in Vineyards Using Autonomous Recording Units and Deep Learning	$7,500

Project Number	Title	Funding/returns for 2025–26 $
WA Ph2401	Investigating Novel Germplasm Solutions: Sensory Characteristics and Consumer Acceptance of 1st Generation Mildew Resistant Varieties and Gene-Edited Grapevines	$15,500
WA Ph2402	Prevalence, distribution, and role of Cryptovalsa ampelina in grapevine dieback in Australia.	$11,779
WA Ph2404	Understanding and improving the mouthfeel and flavour profiles of no and low alcohol (NOLO) wine	$5,000
WA Ph2405	Grapevine Root Distribution and Implications for Nutrient Uptake in Cover Cropped Vineyards	$3,700
WA Ph2406	Characterising Physiological, Biochemical, and Molecular Traits in Shiraz Grapevines of Varying Vine Age in Barossa Valley	$5,790
WA Ph2407	Glycosyltransferases in grapevine secondary metabolism: Understanding and modifying their activity and selectivity	$7,666
WA Ph2501	Elucidating the effects of environmental volatile compounds on red wine aroma and flavour, and evaluating the potential for novel cover crops in viticulture	$15,790
WA Ph2502	Endophytes of indigenous grapevines as a novel source of biopesticides in viticulture	$10,000
WA Ph2503	Removal of toxic metals from discarded CCA treated timber	$10,000
WA Ph2601	Investigating Scale and Mealybug Control in Australian Viticulture	$9,000
WA Ph2602	Novel uses of retentate derived from membrane filtration of wine	$5,408
WA Ph2603	Sustaining Premium Australian Wine: Managing Vine Nutrition through Conventional and Alternative Approaches to Enhance Fermentation and Wine Quality'	$5,408
WA Ph2604	Exploring the genomic basis of virulence in grapevine phylloxera	$5,158
WA Ph2605	Remote sensing prediction of soil moisture and soil organic carbon in vineyards using machine learning and vision-language models	$2,000
WA Ph2606	Vineyard floor management – premium wine	$6,500
WA Ph2607	Developing innovative wine products using natural additives to meet changing consumer needs	$5,408
WAA 2404	AHA Viticulture – Collaboration to demonstrate a series of agriculture technologies to assist grape growers	$181,404
WAC 2419	Future Leaders 2025 (Pragmatic Thinking)	$71,187
WAC 2422	Careers in wine – video series (ABCX Productions)	$9,450
WAC 2501	2025 Next Crop Leadership Program – Barossa	$27,500
WAC 2502	2025 Next Crop Program – Coonawarra	$5,500
WAC 2503	2025 Next Crop Leadership Program – Queensland	$27,500
WAC 2504	2025 Next Crop Program – Victoria	$27,500
WAP 2001	Wine Communicators of Australia (WCA) – Wine Industry Mentor Program	$21,821
WAS 1901	Primary Industries Education Foundation Australia (PIEFA) – Partnership	$30,720
WV 2501 (refer WA 2502)	Support for a Technical and Innovation Lead in Victoria region (refer GRP 2302)	$190,000
Our systems and infrastructure		
AWR 2202-3.2.7	Adopting autonomous vineyard tractors	$122,195
CRRDC	Council of Rural Research & Development Corporations	$33,869
INN 2601	Implementing ISFAQ to strengthen impact-led investment; training for Wine Australia program managers	$7,964
YOU GOV	2025 You Gov report for performance evaluation	$68,670
Total		**$18,509,562**

Provider and management codes

ACC	Acclimatised Pty Ltd
AGW	Australian Grape & Wine
AIA	Agricultural Innovation Australia Limited
AS	Supporting ongoing education and network for Future Leaders graduates
AMA	Amaea Limited
ASV	Australian Society of Viticulture and Oenology
AVR	Agriculture Victoria
AWR	Australian Wine Research Institute
CHA	Chalmers Viticulture Pty Ltd
CHR	Chrismont Wines
CRRDC	Council of Rural R&D Corporations
CSA	CSIRO Agriculture and Food
CSU	Charles Sturt University
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
DPI	NSW Department of Primary Industries
EA	Extension & Adoption
EDG	Edge Environment Pty Ltd
ESG	Environment, Social & Governance
FOV	Foundation Viticulture
GHD	GHD Pty Ltd
GIA	Greenlife Industry Australia Ltd
GRP	Wine Australia Regional Program
HIA	Hort Innovation Australia
INN	Impact Innovation Group Pty Ltd
LTU	La Trobe University
MI CD	Market Insights – Consumer Data
MI ED	Market Insights – Export Data
MVW	Murray Valley Winegrowers Inc
NSK	National Skills Week
PD	People Development
PHA	Plant Health Australia Limited
QUT	Queensland University of Technology
RV	Retallack Viticulture
RWG	Riverina Winegrape Growers
SAR	South Australian Research and Development Institute
SGA	SGA Solutions Pty Ltd
SWA	Sustainable Winegrowing Australia
TV	Tenacious Ventures
UA	The University of Adelaide
UQ	University of Queensland
USC	University of the Sunshine Coast
WA	Wine Australia
WAA	Wine Australia Agtech program expenditure
WAC	Wine Australia consultancy agreements
WAP	Wine Australia Programs (e.g. Wine Communicators of Australia – Wine Industry Mentor Program and PIEFA – Curriculum development schools)
WAS	Wine Australia sponsorships
WIA	NSW Wine Industry Association
WIN	Winechek
WV	Wine Victoria
WWA	Wines of Western Australia
YOU GOV	YouGov – Data analytics & market research

Appendix II: Glossary

Agtech	Broadly, 'agrifood tech' at Wine Australia is taken to mean digitised and technologically enabled agricultural, wine and food production, which typically involves both the collection and analysis of data to improve both on-farm and off-farm decision making, leading to better business outcomes
AGW	Australian Grape & Wine Incorporated, the peak sector member-based organisation.
AIA	Agricultural Innovation Australia, a company targeting transformational innovation across agriculture, formed in October 2020. All 15 Rural Research and Development Corporations (RDCs), including Wine Australia, were its founding members.
APAC	Asia-Pacific region
ASVO	Australian Society of Viticulture and Oenology
AWD	Australian Wine Discovered – Wine Australia's global education platform
AWFF	Australian Wine Future Fund
AWRI	Australian Wine Research Institute
BCA	benefit-cost analysis
CRC	Co-operative Research Centre
CRRDC	Council of Rural Research and Development Corporations
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
CSU	Charles Sturt University
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
ELISS	Export Label Image Search System – managed by Wine Australia to help Australian wine producers protect their intellectual property rights
ESG	Environment, Social & Governance – a framework used to assess an organisation's business practices and performance on various sustainability and ethical issues, and to measure risks and opportunities in those areas
FIVS	Federation International du Vin et Spirit – international alcohol producers forum
FOB	free on board
FTAs	Free Trade Agreements
GI	Geographical Indications, place names associated with specific, geographically-defined and regulated grapegrowing regions
GI Committee	Geographical Indications Committee – an independent tribunal established under the Act to make decisions on the recognition and protection of Australian geographical indications
GM(O)	Genetically Modified (Organism)
IMW	International Masters of Wine
IWSR	International Wines and Spirits Record
JMG	Joint Marketing Group – an Australian Grape & Wine and Wine Australia advisory committee comprised of subject matter experts from across the sector
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
LIP	Label Integrity Program
MAT	Moving annual total
NGC	National Grapevine Collection
NOLO	No-alcohol and/or low-alcohol wines
Non-GM	Not Genetically Modified – usually in the context of traditional breeding or selection methods
MLA	Meat and Livestock Australia
OGWSP	The One Grape & Wine Sector Plan, developed in 2023–24 through extensive consultation with the sector, led by Wine Australia and AGW
OIV	International Organisation of Vine and Wine
PBR	Plant Breeders' Rights – the botanical equivalent of a patent for the developer of a plant variety with specific characters
PGPA Act	Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013
RAC	Research Advisory Committee – an AG&W advisory committee comprised of subject matter experts from across the sector
RD&E	Research, development and extension (formerly adoption)
R&D	Research and development
R&I	Research and innovation
RIF	Research Innovation Fund
SARDI	South Australian Research and Development Institute
SFA	Statutory Funding Agreement
SWA	Sustainable Winegrowing Australia
TV	Tenacious Ventures
the Act	Wine Australia Act 2013
UA	Adelaide University (formerly University of Adelaide)
VIP	Venture Investment Portfolio
WALAS	Wine Australia Licensing and Approval System
WWTG	World Wine Trade Group

Appendix III: Compliance Index

Wine Australia's Annual Report must be prepared by the Directors of Wine Australia in accordance with section 38 of the *Wine Australia Act 2013*, section 46 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act), PGPA Rule 2014 and the Statutory Funding Agreement 2025–34.

Below is the table set out in Schedule 2A of the PGPA Rule. Section 17BE(u) requires this table be included in entities' annual reports.

Details	Page No.
Wine Australia Statutory Funding Agreement 2020–2030 (current to 31 December 2024) and 2025–34 (current from 1 January 2025)	
Contribution to the implementation of relevant industry sector and cross-sectoral strategies under the RD&A Framework	7–8, 13–15, 17–18
The rationale for the mix of projects included in the Balanced Portfolio	13, 61–62
Report on research extension activities	21, 24–25, 27
Collaboration with industry and other research providers	9, 13, 20–27
Identify sources of income including separate identification of the Levy, the Charge, Commonwealth Matching Payments and other forms of income including Voluntary Contributions	13, 60, 68
Full cost of R&D and other activities with costs being allocated in accordance with the Cost Allocation Policy	60
Progress in implementing strategic plan including progress against the plan's KPIs	13, 18, 20–39
Bring the KPIs for each program in the strategic plan and AOP together and demonstrate how the deliverables funded advanced the outcomes	22–27, 30–33, 35–36, 38–39
Assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of investments	13–16
Progress in implementing the Guidelines *The 'Guidelines' for the Annual Report 2024–25 are the Rural RD&E Priorities, the Science and Research Priorities and the Levy Principles and Guidelines in relation to the introduction of new levies or changes to existing levies (if applicable).*	20–27, 63
Consultation with the ROs on plans and activities	17
Other relevant matters notified to Wine Australia by the Commonwealth by 30 June	N/A

Section	Details	Page No.
Wine Australia Act 2013		
s31K(5)(c)(d)	Particulars of a Minister's direction and any impact of the direction on the operations of the Authority	48–49
s38(1)(a)(b)	A report on the operations of the Geographical Indications Committee and set out all final determinations and translations of such indications made by the Committee	43
s38(1)(c)(i)	Grape or wine R&D activities coordinated or funded, wholly or partly during the period	Appendix I
s38(1)(c)(ii)	The amount spent in relation to each of those activities	Appendix I
s38(1)(c)(iii)	Which of those activities related to ecologically sustainable development (if any)	23–35, 27, 32
s38(1)(c)(iv)	The impact of those activities on the grape industry and wine industry	20–21
s38(1)(c)(v)(vi)	Agreements entered into under section 10A and/or 10B and the activities during the period in relation to agreements entered into under that section	Appendix I
s38(1)(c)(vii)	The making of grants under section 10C	Appendix I
s38(1)(c)(viii)	Activities in relation to applying for patents for inventions, commercially exploiting patented inventions and granting licences under patented inventions	21–23
s38(1)(c)(ix)	Activities of any companies in which Wine Australia has an interest	49
s38(1)(c)(x)	Any activities relating to the formation of a company	49
s38(1)(c)(xi)	Significant acquisitions and dispositions of real property (land and buildings)	N/A
s38(1)(d)	Assessment of the extent to which Wine Australia's operations during the period have • achieved the Authority's objectives as stated in its strategic plan • implemented the AOP applicable to the period	7–12, 13–18, 20–39
s38(1)(e)	Assessment of the extent to which Wine Australia has contributed to the attainment of the objects of the Wine Australia Act 2013	Entire report
Schedule 12	Information from its Geographical Indications Committee on its operations	43

Section	Details	Page No.
Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013		
s39(1)(b)	Include a copy of the annual performance statements	51–63
s43(4)	Include a copy of the annual financial statements and the Auditor General's report	65–85
s46(3)	The annual report must comply with any requirements prescribed by the rules	Entire report

PGPA Rule Reference	Details	Page No.
Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014		
s17BB	Report must be approved and signed by accountable authority and include details of how and when approval was given and state that accountable authority is responsible for the preparation and contents of the Annual Report (as required in section 46 of the PGPA Act and in accordance with the Finance Minister's Orders)	65–67
s17BC	Report must comply with the guidelines for presenting documents to the Parliament.	Entire report
s17BD	Report must be constructed having regard to the interests of the Parliament and other users. Information included in the report must be relevant, reliable, concise, understandable and balanced	Entire report
s17BE (a)	Details of the legislation establishing the body	13, 47
s17BE(b)(i)	A summary of the objects and functions of the entity as set out in the legislation	47
s17BE (b)(ii)	The purposes of the entity as included in the entity's corporate plan for the reporting period	13–16
s17BE(c)	The names of the persons holding the position of responsible Minister or responsible Ministers during the reporting period, and the titles of those responsible Ministers	48
s17BE(d)	Directions given to the entity by the Minister under an Act or instrument during the reporting period	48
s17BE(e)	Any government policy order that applied in relation to the entity during the reporting period under section 22 of the Act	48
s17BE(f)	Particulars of non-compliance with: a) a direction given to the entity by the Minister under an Act or instrument during the reporting period; or b) a government policy order that applied in relation to the entity during the reporting period under section 22 of the Act	N/A
s17BE(g)	Annual performance statements in accordance with paragraph 39(1)(b) of the Act and section 16F of the rule	51–63
s17BE(h), s17BE(i)	A statement of significant issues reported to the Minister under paragraph 19(1)(e) of the Act that relates to non-compliance with finance law and action taken to remedy non-compliance	N/A
s17BE(j)	Information on the accountable authority, or each member of the accountable authority, of the entity during the reporting period	40–43
s17BE(k)	Outline of the organisational structure of the entity (including any subsidiaries of the entity)	40–46, 49
s17BE(ka)	Statistics on the entity's employees on an ongoing and non-ongoing basis, including the following: a) statistics on full-time employees; b) statistics on part-time employees; c) statistics on gender; d) statistics on staff location	46
s17BE(l)	Outline of the location (whether or not in Australia) of major activities or facilities of the entity	40
s17BE(m)	Information relating to the main corporate governance practices used by the entity during the reporting period	40
s17BE(n), s17BE(o)	For transactions with a related Commonwealth entity or related company where the value of the transaction, or if there is more than one transaction, the aggregate of those transactions, is more than $10,000 (inclusive of GST): a) the decision-making process undertaken by the accountable authority to approve the entity paying for a good or service from, or providing a grant to, the related Commonwealth entity or related company; and b) the value of the transaction, or if there is more than one transaction, the number of transactions and the aggregate of value of the transactions	49, 82–83
s17BE(p)	Any significant activities and changes that affected the operation or structure of the entity during the reporting period	49
s17BE(q)	Particulars of judicial decisions or decisions of administrative tribunals that may have a significant effect on the operations of the entity	N/A

PGPA Rule Reference	Details	Page No.
Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014		
s17BE(r)	Particulars of any reports on the entity given by: the Auditor-General (other than a report under section 43 of the Act); or a) a Parliamentary Committee; or b) the Commonwealth Ombudsman; or c) the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner	N/A
s17BE(s)	An explanation of information not obtained from a subsidiary of the entity and the effect of not having the information on the annual report	N/A
s17BE(t)	Details of any indemnity that applied during the reporting period to the accountable authority, any member of the accountable authority or officer of the entity against a liability (including premiums paid, or agreed to be paid, for insurance against the authority, member or officer's liability for legal costs)	49
s17BE(taa)	The following information about the audit committee for the entity: a) a direct electronic address of the charter determining the functions of the audit committee; b) the name of each member of the audit committee; c) the qualifications, knowledge, skills or experience of each member of the audit committee; d) information about each member's attendance at meetings of the audit committee; e) the remuneration of each member of the audit committee	41
s17BE(ta)	Information about executive remuneration	45–46

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