



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

Why is there a review?

Under the legislation, the South Australian Sheep Industry Fund (SIF) and Cattle Industry Fund (CIF) Regulations must be reviewed and remade by 1 September 2026.

This is a scheduled, statutory process under the *Primary Industry Funding Schemes Act 1998*.

Why is it proposed to increase rates?

Because they have not changed since FY2016–17 and can no longer deliver the value that industry needs. If these funds were indexed, SIF would now be \$0.74 per head (currently \$0.55 per head) and CIF \$2.03 per tag (currently \$1.50 per tag).

Additionally, the SIF Dog Fence contribution (\$0.12 per head) ended in June 2025 but the need to fund this essential program still exists.

Demand for funding now exceeds revenue by 2–3 times.

Costs for vital industry programs such as compliance, animal health, predator control, and market access are rising.

Without changes there will be fewer projects funded at the very time we need them most.

Where does the money go?

Funds are invested into a range of projects and activities covering:

- animal health
- biosecurity
- predator control
- traceability
- market access protection
- skills and workforce
- advocacy & regulation defence
- industry development.

Independent assessment of SIF and CIF investments over the FY2021 to FY2025 showed 3:1 to >10:1 returns on animal health, predator control and traceability projects, and positive returns on advocacy and industry development activities.

The funds enable greater investment in the South Australian livestock industry by leveraging other funding sources – nearly \$10 million in additional co-investment was secured in FY2025–26.

A summary of the 2024–25 completed projects and activities is available here:

<https://livestocksa.com.au/industry-funds/south-australian-livestock-industry-funds-2024-25-projects>



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Why change CIF from tag to transaction?

Consistency: CIF is the only state levy/contribution still collected per NLIS device. A transaction model aligns CIF with SIF and national transaction levies.

Equity: The current model leaves breeders funding whole-of-industry benefits. A transaction model ensures all beneficiaries contribute their fair share.

Efficiency: Harmonised collection enables system upgrades, reduces administrative burden, and improves reporting and integration.

Fair share: In FY2025–26, only 12% of total livestock industry investment went to cattle despite the sector generating ~40% of industry value. The current model structurally underfunds beef productivity, capability and market assurance.

Is this just funding Livestock SA?

No. Livestock SA has not increased its drawing on the funds for the past four financial years, while the demands on the organisation and its cost of doing business have increased considerably over that time. Independent analysis has found that Livestock SA operates with leaner assets, margins, and staff capacity compared with similar state and federal organisations.

Where would additional revenue go?

All industry funds revenue can only be used for the activities that are specified in respective regulations and annual management plans.

Practically, additional revenue would be used to:

- Continue funding critical projects and activities that have increased considerably over recent years. For example, in SIF funding allocated to predator control activities has been reduced over recent years due to limited funds.
- Unlock co-investment opportunities such as capability projects that are currently unfunded due to revenue constraints. For example, in CIF there are currently two MLA co-investment projects with commercial upside for the whole industry.

Can I still get a refund?

Payments to the funds are mandatory. Refund provisions remain available under the regulations.

Note: the regulations also provide that producers who request a refund are ineligible to benefit from funded projects or activities for two years in SIF and five years in CIF.

This provision exists to protect fairness for contributors and ensure levy-funded benefits are delivered to those who participate in the system. These provisions will be applied consistently in the future.



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Ultimately, the success of the funds are dependent on strong majority–full participation. In the absence of such structures, industry can likely expect cost recovery-type arrangements to be set up for services that are currently funded by SIF and CIF.

How can I vote?

Voting will be undertaken online in April. It will be simple and secure.

Mandatory contributions are collected from the vendor. As such, anyone who owns and sells sheep or cattle will have the opportunity to vote.