# Allocation of funding informed by co-design

The following sections provide more detail on the program components under each theme, including the funding allocation, timing of activities and grant opportunities as well as how these program features relate to the co-design outcomes. The funding allocation is summarised in Figure 3.

Figure 3 - Summary of key components following co-design



### Long-term industry strategy and leadership

### Develop industry strategy and priorities

\$0.8 million

To develop a long-term industry strategy and prioritised action plan for a prosperous and resilient Western Australian sheep and wool sector that considers local, national and international drivers.

### Implementation fund

\$5.0 million

Grants to support priority actions identified in the industry strategy, including research and development and other producer and supply chain needs

... supporting an industry-led vision for the future



## Profitability and continuity of supply

#### **Extension program**

\$4.0 million

Grant program to Western Australia grower groups to support implementation of alternative sheep systems including on-farm demonstrations, feed, pasture management, genetics and nutrition.

#### Farm business transition

\$30.0 million

Grants for sheep producers capped at \$75,000 per applicant to incentivise increased on-farm adoption and uptake of alternative farming systems and practices. Matching co-contributions from grant applicants will be required.

supporting producer transition



### Market and technology systems

# Market feedback and forward contracts

\$2.0 million

Training and extension to enable increased producer use of existing processor feedback and data tools to support continuous improvement of the flock and to encourage use of forward contracts along sheep supply chain to provide improved supply and price certainty for both processors and producers.

### Supply chain capacity

\$40.0 million

Grants to fund new capital investment in enhanced capacity, efficiency, and productivity across the sheep supply chain - from producers through to processors,

A wide range of capital projects will be eligible. Examples include on-farm finishing infrastructure, upgrades to feedlots and processing facilities, technology solutions (such as objective carcase management), cold storage and lairage.

Delivered by WA Government

#### Enhancing market demand

\$27.0 million

Grants to support market representation, marketing, market development and events.

Continuing agricultural counsellors in the Middle East and North Africa region to support close co-operation and trade relationships.

Enabling activities to enhance demand for Australian sheep meat and sheep products promoting increased business-to-business matching and delivering a global agenda of events for Australian sheep and food products with Austrade.

Elements delivered by MLA and Austrade

...the right product for the right market



### Business and community resilience

#### Shearing Industry transition

\$2.2 million

Develop and implement a new business model for shearing teams to support ongoing employment opportunities in agricultural communities.

# Livestock transport business transition

\$1.5 million

Grants of up to \$40,000 to assist eligible transport businesses, a co-contribution may be required.

#### Community wellbeing

\$1.5 million

For activities in affected regions to strengthen community resilience and foster community wellbeing and connections.

Commenced by WA Government

# Financial counselling services

\$2.4 million

Providing more services through the Rural Financial Counselling Service in Western Australia.

Delivered by Rural West

... assisting business and communities through transition

# Purpose

The Australian Government has announced \$139.8 million in transition assistance to support affected businesses adapt to the phase out of live sheep exports by sea from 1 May 2028 (Figure 1). Several programs and initiatives have already commenced.

In February 2025, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (the department) undertook a co-design process with Western Australian sheep producers and the broader supply chain. The feedback informed how best to allocate the \$97.4 million in funding from the *Producer and supply chain program*. In line with the co-design feedback, this document sets out the funding allocation of the \$97.4 million.

There are two other elements of the transition assistance package: \$27.0 million for the *Enhancing market demand program* and \$15.4 million for the *Policy and oversight program* which includes funding for the Transition Advocate.

Figure 1 – Components of the \$139.8 million transition assistance package



\$97.4m Producer and supply chain program

Assisting sheep producers and supply chain businesses to transition away from live sheep exports by sea.



\$27m Enhancing market demand program

Enabling the industry to capitalise on growing consumer demand in Australia and overseas for high-quality sheep products, food and fibre.



\$15.4m Policy and oversight program

Implementing the phase out policy, engaging with stakeholders and monitoring transition progress.