

The APIQ Panel Members

Panel members serve a 2 to 3-year term. Members may be invited to continue their service by the APL Board. When a vacancy opens APIQM calls for applications from across industry to fill the specific role. After interviews a suitable candidate is nominated by a selection committee.

Panel Chair - Mrs Sharon Starick

Sharon is a mixed farmer, including pigs, from South Australia. Sharon has been the Panel Chair since October 2013 and served as a producer representative on the Panel since its establishment in 2010. Sharon serves rural industry in several capacities including as a Chair of Animal Health Australia and as the Chair of the Rural Business Support Organisation in South Australia.

Sharon joined the APIQ Panel in September 2013.

Intensive Livestock Veterinarian - Dr Kate Savage

Kate is a senior swine consultant veterinarian at Apiam Animal Health. In her role, Kate services a range of WA clients from small independent producers through to large corporate farms, on health, production and quality assurance. She is a member of Pork Industry Training WA (PITWA), coordinating and delivering Certificate III training in pork production. Kate has a special interest in pig welfare, and completed a Master's in International Animal Welfare, Ethics and Law through the University of Edinburgh in 2021. She is an adjunct lecturer at Murdoch University, teaching Intensive Industries to Animal Science and Veterinary students. Kate was a past APIQ auditor for several years and is the Australian Pig Veterinarians Group President, for 2025-2026.

Kate joined the APIQ Panel in January 2026.

Independent Specialist Auditor - Mrs Margaret Balfour

Margaret has over twenty years third-party independent audit experience across a wide range of food and farming sectors including animal feed production, red meat, poultry and animal production. She is currently a qualified and practicing independent auditor for various global schemes encompassing food safety, welfare, environmental and social responsibility. Margaret has extensive experience in the collaborative development, interpretation, application and administration of food safety, environmental and welfare standards for various intensive animal production.

Margaret joined the APIQ Panel in January 2023.

Independent Producer - Dr Darryl D'Souza

Darryl is the Executive General Manager, Technical Services with the SunPork Group, Australia's largest pig producer. In his current role, Darryl has direct management of SunPork's R&D, Training, Benchmarking and Decision Support and Sustainability Programs. Darryl also manages SunPork's Westbrook Research Farm and PIC Australia (Genetic Services). Darryl completed his PhD at the University of Melbourne in 1998 and is a Meat Scientist with 30 years' experience. He has been involved with APIQ over a long period and in various capacities including part of the working group developing the first APIQ Standards in the late 1990s and managing the APIQ program (2012 – 2016) when he was APL General Manager Research and Innovation. Darryl is an APL Delegate.

Darryl joined the APIQ Panel in January 2023.

Independent Producer – Mrs Tracy Anderson

Tracy is the owner manager of a 600-sow APIQ accredited farrow to finish operation located in the South Burnett in Queensland. As a medium sized producer, Tracy has had a hands-on role of managing the APIQ accreditation program since 2011. She is always striving to improve her business' QA standards on farm and in the office. Tracy is an active participant in the pork industry as an APL Delegate, Treasurer/Secretary for Pork Queensland Inc, sits on the steering committee for APEL (Australian Pork Young leaders) and is Board Chair of the Riverbend Pork Group.

Tracy joined the APIQ Panel in January 2023.

Independent Producer – Mr Richard Evison

Richard is the General Manager at Westpork Pty Ltd, WA's largest pork producer. His career in the pork industry began on the family farm in Yorkshire, and he has worked in Canada, the UK, and Australia in intensive, semi-intensive and free-range farming across different climates. Richard is a graduate of the Australian Rural Leadership Program and has been an elected Delegate of APL since 2017. He is also a member of the National Feral Pig Action Plan Implementation Committee. Richard previously held positions of Treasurer, Vice President and President of WAPPA (WA's Industry State Body) and is a current member of the State Pig Biosecurity Consultative Group.

Richard joined the APIQ Panel in January 2026.

Supply Chain Specialist - Mr Dale Pemberton

Dale joined the Panel in January 2018. Dale is the National Livestock Manager for Coles Supermarket. Dale's role includes managing Coles livestock procurement for the Coles lamb and pork species. Dale has been involved in the livestock supply chain for over 30 years. Dale's appointment continues to demonstrate Coles commitment to the pig industry and the APIQ Program.

Dale joined the APIQ Panel in January 2018.