

## AGENDA ITEM ADDITIONAL REMIT

### Proposer of remit: Rick Burke (Chairman: Farmers 4 Positive Change)

During any advocacy negotiations where there is a perceived or actual conflict between advocating for the Sheep and Beef sector versus the Dairy industry, this conflict must be declared by B+LNZ and the advocacy position taken will be from a sheep and beef sector standpoint.

### Proposer's arguments for remit

Over recent years, the work of the levy organisations has increasingly moved into policy and advocacy on behalf of their levy payers. B+LNZ is unique in that a proportion of the beef levy collected comes from the dairy industry.

Policy discussions over the last decade (eg freshwater allocation and He Waka Eke Noa) have become increasingly problematic in that in many instances the completely different land types, market drivers, environmental impacts and priorities on farms has meant that these factors have tended to make agreement on a "team agriculture" position impossible.

The purpose of these remits is to give clarity to B+LNZ and to farmer levy payers (including dairy farmers), so that B+LNZ has a clear understanding as to the position that is required to be taken in these policy discussions and for whom they are advocating.

### Beef + Lamb New Zealand response to remit

- We are aware of concerns about the fact B+LNZ collects levies from both sheep and beef farmers and on beef from dairy farms, and about potential resulting conflicts.
- B+LNZ's advocacy work strives to achieve the best possible outcomes for sheep, beef and dairy farmers' beef enterprises. In most cases the interests of all pastoral farmers are aligned. Good examples include winter grazing regulations, and more recently Resource Management Act reform. There are times when the positions of the dairy sector and B+LNZ differ to a greater or lesser degree, and where this happens B+LNZ does not change its positions for the sake of seeking alignment and we agree to differ. Examples of this include PC1 in Waikato, and the setting of methane targets in the Zero Carbon Bill.
- In our view, the pastoral sector has a stronger voice when it is united, but we will not and do not compromise sheep and beef interests in seeking alignment with the dairy sector or any other sector.
- We are committed to positive outcomes for our beef levy payers in the dairy sector, as shown by the work outlined in our Beef Levies for Dairy Farmers publication.
- B+LNZ believe there is always room to improve policy and advocacy or any process. As noted in Remit 6 B+LNZ has recommended an independent process to review policy and advocacy work through Farmer Council using an independent facilitator. This would be open to all levy payers. The concerns raised in this additional remit about the relationship with the dairy sector could be part of those considerations.