



TASMANIAN  
QUALITY MEATS

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## **Tasmanian Quality Meats Given the Green Light to Export Media Release | Friday December 22, 2023**

Tasmanian Quality Meats (TQM) has welcomed today's decision by the Commonwealth to give the family business the green light to continue processing premium Tasmanian lamb for the domestic and export market.

A letter received today from the Federal Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries advised that TQM can continue exporting sheep and lamb, with four new practical conditions of registration.

"We've been given the green light to continue processing and exporting sheep and lamb, and that's a massive vote of confidence in TQM from the Federal Department of Agriculture," TQM CEO Jake Oliver said.

"This means TQM can continue to do what we do best, and that's processing and exporting premium Tasmanian meats for home and across the world.

"This is great news for TQM, our staff, Tasmanian farmers, suppliers that rely on us, our local community here in Cressy, and the whole state.

"This means our 200 staff can continue to work, that Tasmanian farmers have the vital service of the state's only export accredited sheep processing facility, and it puts Tassie roast lamb back on the Christmas menu.

"I sincerely thank our staff, farmers, customers, our local community and members of Parliament who have thrown their support behind us every step of the way."

The four conditions are: An independent Root Cause Analysis Report; additional CCTV monitored by an Animal Welfare Officer; a monthly Signed Declaration by management; and, a new restrainer for calves, plus additional training for staff.

Mr Oliver said the new conditions are very practical, and TQM has agreed to all.

"We're very grateful that the Federal Department has recognised the immediate and significant actions that we took to improve our policies and procedures," Mr Oliver said.

"The new conditions of registration are very practical, and we are already working to get these in place as we gear up for the busiest time of year.

"TQM has already voluntarily suspended all bobby calf processing until a new restrainer is in place, and as such the Department's partial suspension of bobby calf activity will not impact the business or jobs.

"TQM is committed to upholding the highest levels of animal welfare standards, and we will continue to take every action possible to ensure this does not happen again.

"We are continuing to work with Biosecurity Tasmania, and welcome the Tasmanian Government's recent announcement of a taskforce to strengthen animal welfare.

"TQM welcomes the taskforce, and shares the Tasmanian Government's commitment to improving animal welfare standards.

"We will continue to work with all levels of Government on any further actions to improve animal welfare, including having CCTV cameras monitored by Government."

**ENDS**