

Horticulture Industry Forum (HIF) Policy Document

1. Purpose of the Forum

The Horticulture Industry Forum (HIF) serves as a platform for the horticulture industry to engage in meaningful dialogue, collaboration, and strategic planning. The future purpose of the HIF will focus on three key areas:

- **Consultation:** To seek and offer information, advice, and feedback on important topics. This provides an opportunity to be updated on current and emerging issues, allowing stakeholders to make informed decisions.
- **Collaboration:** To offer input into the direction and strategy of the horticultural industry. The HIF provides a safe environment for participants to engage in open, honest, and at times difficult discussions that are crucial for the industry's growth and development.
- **Strategy:** To find common ground and alignment on important topics, fostering a united approach. The HIF serves as a platform for networking, where attendees can align their interests, share insights, and collaborate on industry-wide strategies.

2. Attendees

The core expected participants of the HIF are:

- PG Representatives
- Chief Executive Officers (CEOs)
- DA Representatives

Growers and other specific stakeholders may also be invited to attend based on the agenda for each particular forum. This flexibility ensures that the right people are involved in discussions depending on the topic and objectives.

3. Process

The HIF will be organised by HortNZ with the following process in mind:

- **Agenda Setting:** The responsibility for setting the agenda for each forum will lie with the CEO HortNZ, and will be based on current industry needs, emerging trends, and topics identified by the core participants and stakeholders. This process will ensure the forum remains relevant and addresses the most pressing issues facing the industry. The CEO HortNZ will work with Product Group CE's (or equivalent office holder) in setting the agenda for each HIF.
- **Location:** Location of the HIF may vary, and from time-to-time forums may be hosted in conjunction with other relevant events to optimize logistics and reduce hosting costs. Online participation will also be available (subject to venue), providing wider accessibility and enabling broader engagement.
- **Frequency:** The HIF will meet three times a year (unless otherwise agreed by a majority of the core expected participants referred to in section 2 above), ensuring regular opportunities for consultation, collaboration, and strategic alignment.
- **Chair, Facilitation and Engagement:** The forum will be Chaired by HortNZ and facilitated to ensure balanced participation from all attendees, allowing everyone to

contribute to discussions. All participants are encouraged to engage constructively and share insights, fostering a productive and collaborative environment.

4. Review and Adaptation

The HIF policy will be reviewed on an annual basis. This review will consider the effectiveness of the forum, assess whether the objectives are being met, and determine if changes are necessary to improve the process. The Board will lead this review and recommend any adjustments to the HIF members to ensure the HIF remains relevant and effective for all stakeholders. This Policy Document and any subsequent amendments to it shall be approved by a simple majority vote of Members at a HortNZ AGM or SGM.

5. Governance and Constitutional Considerations

The provisions governing the HIF and any other meetings arranged by HortNZ (outside of the AGM and any SGMs) are set out in clause 7 of HortNZ's constitution.

6. Conclusion

The HIF is a critical platform for fostering open dialogue, collaboration, and strategic alignment within the horticulture industry. By adhering to the above policy, the forum can effectively meet the needs of all stakeholders, enabling industry-wide success. Regular reviews of the policy will ensure that it continues to evolve in response to changing needs and priorities.