

# Consultation paper: Sunset review of the Pastoral Workers' Accommodation Regulation 2015

## 1. Background

The *Pastoral Workers' Accommodation Regulation 2015* (Regulation) is subordinate legislation made under section 33 of the *Pastoral Workers' Accommodation Act 1980* (Act).

The Regulation's provisions ensure the basic standards of accommodation for workers in the pastoral industry, in circumstances where the Act requires employers provide accommodation for pastoral workers.

The Regulation, along with the Act and the relevant Mandatory Part ([MP 5.6 - Pastoral Workers' Accommodation Queensland Development Code](#)) under the Queensland Development Code, provides for minimum standards of accommodation to be provided by occupiers of pastoral properties for workers employed in pastoral work. The Regulation does not impose the obligations upon the employer to provide accommodation, but sets out the minimum standards that must be adhered to where accommodation is provided.

Pastoral work includes work in connection with:

- the management, rearing or grazing horses, cattle or sheep on properties other than dairy farms;
- the shearing or crutching of sheep;
- the scouring, sorting or pressing of wool; or
- work declared under the PWA Regulation to be pastoral work.

## 2. Sunset review of the Pastoral Workers' Accommodation Regulation 2015

The *Statutory Instruments Act 1992* provides that subordinate legislation automatically expires (or 'sunset') every ten years, unless action is taken to preserve it. This ensures subordinate legislation is regularly reviewed and provides an opportunity to evaluate its effectiveness and efficiency, including whether it is still required.

The sunset review process considers whether the Regulation:

- is still required;
- is effective and efficient; and
- if any amendments should be proposed as part of the remade Regulation.

The Regulation will expire at midnight on 31 August 2026 unless remade. As part of the sunset review, the Office of Industrial Relations is seeking stakeholder feedback on the performance of the Regulation.

Preliminary analysis indicates that the Regulation is still required and that it provides for appropriate accommodation standards for pastoral workers without imposing onerous obligations upon employers. Subject to the outcomes of consultation, it is anticipated the Regulation will be remade with any necessary amendments.

Please note the scope of the sunset review is limited to the provisions of the Regulation and does not include the provisions of the Act.

## 3. Submissions

Stakeholders are invited to provide feedback about the operation of the Regulation.

Written submissions should be provided to [irpolicy@oir.qld.gov.au](mailto:irpolicy@oir.qld.gov.au) by Friday 20 March 2026.