Joint Agency Drought Taskforce winds up

Advice has been received from the Commonwealth Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet that the Joint Agency Drought Taskforce will officially conclude on 28 June 2019. The Coordinator-General for Drought, Major General Stephen Day, will conclude in his role by mid-July.

"The Australian Government has a comprehensive \$7 billion plan, informed by the work of the Drought Taskforce, to respond to the ongoing challenge of drought in Australia. A key mechanism of this plan will be the \$5 billion Future Drought Fund. The Coordinator-General has provided advice to the Prime Minister to support the next phase of the Australian Government's long-term response to drought in Australia.

"Drought-affected farmers and communities will continue to be represented by the Hon David Littleproud, Minister for Water Resources, Drought, Rural Finance, Natural Disaster and Emergency Management, who will drive a whole-of-government response to the drought affecting large parts of rural and regional Australia.

The responsibilities of the Drought Taskforce will now transfer to the Department of Agriculture. For all policy issues, please contact <u>droughtpolicy@agriculture.gov.au</u>."

29 June 2019