WHA reached out to funders, stakeholders, management committee members and staff to seek feedback about our current performance.

This is the message we received, consistent across all stakeholder groups:

- Strong expertise, with an incredible network of trusted relationships across multiple groups.

- Very reliable delivery partner - 'most trusted partner status'.

- Seen as an honest and trusted broker, enabler, and neutral party working in the national interest.

- An incredibly valuable player, well-considered advice, very sound science.

- Brilliant output. Amazing resources.

- Committed to collaboration and coordination with other individuals and organisations - bringing people together and breaking down barriers.

- Energetic, with a willingness to listen and to help.

- Very strong ethics. Respectful of people's information rights. A two way approach to information where people get back as well as input.

- Highly expert management committee members.

- A productive, collegiate, respectful and professional workplace.

- A great CEO leader who has carefully built a high performance culture and nurtured a strong team. A collaborative style of leadership, engendering a high level of commitment and trust.

We were encouraged by these stakeholders to have courage and be bold.

This strategic vision sets the agenda for change for wildlife health in Australia.

We look forward to working together.

Rupert Woods

CEO

Wildlife Health Australia

OUR STRATEGIC VISION

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships

Two way trusted partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, organisations and peoples.

Strategic Deliverables:

1. Mutually beneficial relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders and organisations that have close ties to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

2. Enhanced wildlife health surveillance and support for ecosystem health, through collaborative work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations.

3. Increased awareness across the WHA membership base of wildlife issues that are of concern for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

4. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander project officers employed to assist WHA build trusted partnerships.

Awareness

Increased awareness of wildlife health, One Health and ecosystem health.

Strategic Deliverables:

1. Impactful, compelling messages and data that demonstrate how wildlife health is crucial to human and ecosystem health.

2. A national plan for Australian wildlife health and wellbeing, updated every two years, with national, state and territory recommendations.

Capacity Building

Increased capacity of Australia to protect and promote wildlife health.

Strategic Deliverables:

1. A rapid response network in all states and territories to:
   a) investigate wildlife disease events;
   b) provide expert cross-disciplinary guidance on best practice responses.

2. Improved skills for wildlife carers through training programs and evidence-based standards for wildlife rehabilitation.

3. Enhanced technical advice on wildlife health to the nation, through the employment of wildlife epidemiologists, ecologists and public health experts.

4. Wildlife carer groups are brought into the national wildlife health system.

Coordination and Collaboration

WHA leads, coordinates and collaboratively partners to deliver a nationally integrated wildlife health system for Australia.

Strategic Deliverables:

1. WHA is the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE) international collaborating centre on wildlife health and biodiversity for Australia and the region.

2. An International Collaborating Centre on the Health of Antarctic Wildlife that incorporates the Australian Antarctic Territory into Australia's national wildlife health system.

Ecosystems

Healthy Australian wildlife in resilient ecosystems.

Strategic Deliverables:

1. Wildlife health management is integrated within national One Health and conservation strategies, including strategy, governance and multi-sectoral information sharing.

2. Expert advice on the impact on Australian wildlife health of climate change, habitat loss and other significant environmental threats.

3. A national picture of Australia's wildlife health through linking and harmonising health information systems.

4. Expert wildlife health guidance is integrated within threatened species planning and recovery.

5. Coordinated national response to priority wildlife health issues, including iconic species such as koalas, orange bellied parrots, and frogs.

Emergencies

WHA is an active, trusted and key advisor about wildlife in Australia's emergency system.

Strategic Deliverables:

1. Agreed national standards for triage, care and rehabilitation of wildlife affected by emergency events.

2. Communicated protocols and guidance on best practice in wildlife welfare during emergencies.

3. A national wildlife bushfires and emergency preparedness focus group to improve communication, coordination and progression of issues of mutual concern between government and non-government stakeholders.

4. Veterinarians, first responders and wildlife carers can effectively contribute to all hazard emergencies affecting wildlife.

5. A coordinated, national network of interchangeable resources that provide swift national support on responses during all hazard emergencies affecting wildlife.

Research

A national strategic research agenda that creates positive outcomes for wildlife health in Australia.

Strategic Deliverables:

1. A prioritised national wildlife health research strategy, built collaboratively with all stakeholders.

2. Collaborative, interdisciplinary wildlife health research that uses multiple data sources.

3. Shared research findings that maximise positive outcomes and iteratively inform the national strategic research agenda.

Surveillance

A robust, coordinated wildlife health surveillance system that drives improvements to Australia's biodiversity, trade, human health, animal health and wildlife health.

Strategic Deliverables:

1. An expanded national wildlife health coordination system for wildlife disease surveillance and reporting.

2. Rapid, effective and efficient capture, management and sharing of wildlife health information, integrated with relevant data sources.

3. An expanded national wildlife health information system, with an increased focus on:
   a) wildlife health and disease issues impacting upon human health;
   b) information on antimicrobial resistance in Australian native wildlife;
   c) disease impact on conservation, biodiversity and ecosystems for wildlife;
   d) use of wildlife as bio-sentinels for environmental pollutants, pesticides and heavy metals;
   e) wildlife as indicators of ecosystem health.