

GVP WORKING GROUP

MEETING 6. COMMUNIQUE 21 JANUARY 2025 (ONLINE)

Outcomes of Meeting Six

- The Working Group held its sixth meeting on 21 January 2025. The meeting was a follow up to meeting 5 to further discuss principles that could guide a proposed GVP based levy approach.
- The Working Group noted that the set of principles would be general in nature and useful to guide any future revenue levy model.
- The Working Group reviewed and incorporated the comments received on the draft principles paper since the last meeting.
- Discussion of principles at the meeting included a number of amendments to the principles, as well as some key areas for further consideration including:
 - The recognition that management of fish stocks benefit the whole Victorian community and that costs of management should be apportioned to all beneficiaries.
 - o That 'management' of fish stocks should include research and development activities.
 - That any reform should include a period of transition to allow entitlement holders the time to adjust to changes and to smooth out the impacts on their businesses.
 - o The need for a principle of periodic review of any system implemented.
- The meeting finished with 22 principles that would be reviewed, with a consolidated draft list being provided to the next meeting.
- The Working Group noted that South Australia has recently completed a review of cost recovery on fishing entitlements in that state.
- For the next meeting, the Working Group will meet with representatives from Western Australia to discuss the experience of introducing of a GVP based levy on commercial fishing entitlements in that state, and the learnings 10 years on.
- The next meeting will be scheduled for early February 2025.

