



Livestock**ASSIST**

LivestockASSIST: FAQs for Responders

Q: What is expected of me as a responder for LivestockASSIST?

A: As a responder for LivestockASSIST, you are expected to represent the ALRTA's response on behalf of the industry in the event of transport related animal welfare incident. This may include attending the scene of an accident or incident, or working with LivestockASSIST into coordinating access to your local network of:

- **Approved Vets:** e.g. Local veterinary services. Liaise with them to attend and inspect animals and euthanise if required.
- **Yards:** Details of nearest yards or portable yards that could be utilised
- **Dead stock removal:** Contacts for appropriate removal and disposal of deceased livestock.

You may also be required to:

- **Assessment and handling of livestock:** Safely manage animals involved in accidents, ensuring their welfare and minimising stress.
- **Provide advice to emergency services on animal welfare:** Offer guidance on livestock care and emergency procedures to authorities.
- **Coordinate with emergency services:** Work alongside law enforcement, veterinarians, and other responders to ensure a comprehensive response.
- **Vehicle Recovery teams:** LivestockASSIST will have a list of tow providers however you may utilise your local knowledge for the provision of additional services and equipment such as heavy machinery etc.

Q: How will I be contacted in the event of an emergency?

A: **Phone:** You will receive a direct call from **LivestockASSIST** outlining the situation and connecting you to the involved party.

Clear instructions: The communication will include details about the incident, such

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as location and the number of animals involved.

Q: What information and resources do I need to have to hand to be ready to provide support to a livestock transporter involved in an incident?

A: As a responder it would be helpful to have a list of local contacts and access to resources to assist in managing the incident, including:

- *Vets to attend and inspect animals and euthanise if required.*
- *Contract musterers and people to help gather the stock.*
- *Have access to or know where to get portable yards and ramp to load remaining stock.*
- *Know of boiler makers or similar to come with tools and equipment to cut animals free.*
- *Find machinery and tip trucks to come to site to extract deceased animals out of crate, load, and move to an appropriate disposal site.*
- *Finding or coordinating with local council to identify an appropriate disposal site*
- *Organise to transport the remaining livestock to a destination.*

Q:  What are the immediate steps I should take when I arrive at an accident scene?

A: Upon arrival, follow these steps:

- **Breathe:** *have a level head read to assess*
- **Assess the scene:** *Ensure personal safety first—look for hazards like traffic or unrestrained animals.*

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- **Liaise with law enforcement on scene to secure the area and advise them who you are and your role at the accident scene:** If necessary, create a safe perimeter to protect both livestock and humans.
- **Evaluate livestock conditions:** Determine the health and well-being of the animals involved. Identify any that require urgent veterinary attention and those that can be transhipped. Arrange another truck and/or nearby or portable yards/ramp to relocate the ones that are fit to move.
- **Work with recovery team:** Work with the recovery team to best work out how to access livestock still contained on the vehicle.
- **Collaborate with authorities:** Work with law enforcement or emergency responders to coordinate efforts and share information.

Q: What information will I receive prior to responding to an incident?

A: Before responding, you can expect to receive:

- **Accident location:** The exact site of the incident, often with GPS coordinates.
- **Number and types of animals involved:** Information on how many and what types of livestock are affected.
- **Severity of injuries:** Initial reports on the condition of both humans and animals involved, which may influence your approach.
- **Provider details:** Information about the person or organisation requesting assistance, as well as relevant contact numbers including Emergency Animal Response Team to dispatch an authorised vet.

Q: Will I need to document my actions on-site?

A: Yes, documentation is crucial. Guidelines include:

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- **Actions taken:** Record all measures you implement, such as treatment administered, or calls made for veterinary assistance along with the names and contact details of any parties you spoke with.

Q: Am I compensated for my time as a responder?

A: Any services arranged by LivestockASSIST and yourself are at the expense of the vehicle owner. You are entitled to charge expenses including travel to the scene to the owner of the vehicle. Dependent upon the circumstances, this cost may be passed on to vehicle owners insurance provider.

Q: What insurance or liability coverage is provided for responders?

A: You should contact a broker or an insurance provider to consider your insurance options.

Q: What should I do if I'm unable to respond to an emergency call?

A: **Inform LivestockASSIST immediately:** Contact them as soon as possible to decline the call, so they can find an alternative responder. LivestockASSIST may still require your assistance in accessing local contacts.

Q: How can I provide feedback after attending an incident?

A: To give feedback:

- **Direct communication:** Contact LivestockASSIST and ask to speak to a manager to discuss your thoughts or provide suggestions for improving procedures.

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- **Regular reviews:** *Participate in debriefs or meetings organised by LivestockASSIST to discuss broader operational improvements or discuss at Driver & Animal Welfare Meetings within your state association.*

Q: Can I update my availability or expertise on the LivestockASSIST contact list?

A: *Yes, you can update your information by:*

- **Contacting LivestockASSIST:** *Reach out to LivestockASSIST to provide your updated details.*
- **Notification of changes:** *Ensure you communicate any changes promptly to maintain accurate records for effective response coordination.*

By following these guidelines, responders can effectively assist in livestock accidents, ensuring the safety and welfare of both animals and people involved.

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