

15 May 2026

Dear East region suppliers,

MAINLAND DAIRY SUPPLIERS' COUNCIL - East region Councillor vacancy

The Mainland Dairy Suppliers' Council (MDSC) provides an important link between Lactalis-Mainland Dairy and our Australian suppliers.

The MDSC is comprised of six executive board members and up to 12 regional councillors - made up of a cross-representative group of the supply base, across all supply regions. This structure means there is a total of four representatives from each region (usually one Regional Executive and up to three Councillors).

We currently have **an upcoming vacancy in the East region, created by Dean Ford coming to the end of second his term with MDSC, and the requirement that after two terms that he step down from his role.** A big thank you from us all, and especially those in the East, to Dean for his contributions to MDSC for the last four years.

To be eligible to join MDSC as a Councillor, you must be either a supplier (or an active farm manager) on a Lactalis-Mainland Dairy supplying farm in the region in which you are applying.

Attached to this letter is a high-level role description of what it means to be a regional councillor of the MDSC and what is expected from you. A fee of \$8,000 pa + GST is paid to MDSC councillors (paid quarterly).

Ongoing formal and informal training opportunities will also be available to you as a MDSC Councillor.

The Chairperson of MDSC is Gippsland supplier Stuart Griffin.

The MDSC structure is designed to be regionally focussed – with the MDSC regional Executive and up to three regional councillors working together in their region and reporting up (through the regional executive) to the MDSC chairperson. All regions are also further supported by the Lactalis-Mainland Dairy Farm Source team.

Appointment as a councillor to the MDSC is for a term of two years with the option of a second two-year term. Appointments to vacated positions are open to all eligible candidates from the applicable region, by application. The councillor position and any reappointment for the 2nd term are subject to performance and conduct reviews.

The current incumbents in the East region are listed below:

East	Stuart Griffin (MDSC Chair), Dean Turner (MDSC Executive), Kylie Ross (Councillor),
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Key dates for the applications process are;

Monday 1st June: Applications close.

Early / mid-June 2026: Interview / selection sessions commence.

To apply please complete the attached application form and return (by Monday 1st June):

By email: will.kermode@au.mainlanddairy.com or

By post to;

Will Kermode – MDSC Company Secretary
Level 2, 40 River Boulevard
Richmond VIC 3121

If you would like more information, please contact Will Kermode (MDSC Company Secretary),
ph 0409 232 992 or will.kermode@au.mainlanddairy.com

A copy of this letter and a full copy of the MDSC Councillor Handbook (including more details on
the position of councillor) is also available on the MDSC website: www.supplierscouncil.com

Alternatively you should feel free to chat to your local MDSC Member or your Lactalis-
Mainland Dairy Area Manager about the MDSC councillor roles and the benefits to both
yourself and your fellow suppliers of being part of the MDSC.

Yours Faithfully,



Will Kermode
Company Secretary – Mainland Dairy Suppliers' Council

Mainland Dairy Suppliers' Council

- Councillor application form (East)

To apply, please fill out the following details and return this form by Monday 1st June 2026 – ideally by email (or by mail) to:

Will Kermode – MDSC Company Secretary
Level 2, 40 River Boulevard
Richmond VIC 3121

email: will.kermode@au.mainlanddairy.com

Yes, I would like to apply for the position of Councillor on the Mainland Dairy Suppliers' Council (East region)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Farm number: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

My reasons for applying include: *(please attach extra pages if needed)*

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please provide the names and farm numbers of two Lactalis-Mainland Dairy suppliers outside your immediate family who are prepared to support your application:

1. _____ Farm no: _____

2. _____ Farm no: _____

For further information contact;

Will Kermode, ph 0409 232 992, or on email address above.

Please note that a more detailed resume may be requested prior to the interview process.

MDSC Councillor – role overview (summary)

The MDSC has up to 12 regional councillors who will concentrate on milk supply and supplier issues. As a group representing the views and opinions of Lactalis-Mainland Dairy suppliers, they play a vital part in helping MDSC and Lactalis-Mainland Dairy's management, staff and suppliers grow in their understanding of themselves and the business with which they are involved.

The key role of all MDSC members is open and honest engagement and communication. This communication is intended to be upwards communication (to the MDSC regional executive, to the MDSC Chairperson and to Lactalis-Mainland Dairy management).

Through their involvement, Councillors will develop their industry knowledge and leadership skills, as well as a much deeper understanding of the processor they supply. These learnings are intended to not only assist councillors with their immediate roles on the MDSC, but to also help them with future roles in the Dairy Industry and also the broader community.

The MDSC is an important part of Lactalis-Mainland Dairy's constant two-way communication with its entire supplier base. The MDSC Councillors will not be involved in price negotiations or operational issues that sit with Lactalis-Mainland Dairy (and the MDSC Executive). It will also not be a platform for special interest groups.

Remuneration is \$8,000 pa (plus GST) for Councillors – this remuneration is linked to attendance and is designed to assist with covering your role on farm for the time you are required to commit to the role with MDSC.

Councillors will possess an excellent dairy farm business understanding, with a desire to learn more, a willingness to actively expand your networks and to share these skills. You will be open and honest communicators, with strong relationship building skills and can develop appropriate networks within both the industry and with other suppliers.

You will also be approachable, listen to people, show leadership and be willing to be a sounding board to fellow suppliers.

A full copy of the MDSC Councillor Handbook including position descriptions etc is available on the MDSC website www.supplierscouncil.com.au or from Will Kermode – will.kermode@au.mainlanddairy.com

Annualised recurring Councillor activities <i>(approximate)</i>	No. Of Days
EXPECTED COMMITTED DAYS	
2 x MDSC conferences (Melb. in Nov 2 days, Regionally in March 2-3 days)	5
2 x Regional MDSC meetings annually (to be attended in person)	1
Attendance to Supplier meetings / Christmas parties / Field Days / stalls etc	2
Join 10 x monthly MDSC online Teams meetings (30 mins each)	1
Presence at local/ regional/ industry group meetings, e.g., Discussions Groups, RDPs	1
Miscellaneous activities e.g. assisting with MDSC programs or other working group activities	1
Total	11