

# KEY THEMES FROM THE CONSULTATION

Through the consultation process, SRA identified key themes, summarised below:

KEY THEME	SRA RESPONSE IN SUMMARY
Relationships, rapport, communication and connection are crucial and valuable.	Through the Industry Services business unit and a District Manager model, SRA will deliver enhanced research translation and industry engagement.
Variety development and biosecurity are fundamental, critical services.	SRA is enacting a range of efficiencies and improvements within the sugarcane breeding program, while maintaining the existing headline goal of 2 percent annual genetic gain.
Technical capacity and capability must be maintained within the sugar industry.	Through this Strategic Plan, SRA will maintain core translational research activity in-house, while ensuring adequate scope for investment across external research providers.
Commercialisation and monetising intellectual property creates challenges, risks and opportunities.	SRA will establish a small team to focus on innovation and commercial activities, while ensuring that other SRA business units are supported by high quality skills in these areas.
There is a need for SRA to bolster its commercial skill sets.	
SRA needs to reduce overheads and expenditure, while balancing human resource challenges and concerns into the future.	SRA will conduct a property and asset review in 2021, alongside a prioritisation of unlocking the capital associated with the Indooroopilly (Brisbane) site. A strategic change-management plan has been developed to support SRA's human resource, as well as future plans for capability development programs.
There was general support for SRA pursuing a single portfolio of research. Industry is seeking further consultation regarding prioritisation and decision-making processes.	SRA is reinvigorating its approach to research investment and governance in line with this feedback.
There was mixed support for a model where funding passed through productivity services companies for extension and SRA's ability to manage those relationships.	SRA is not currently proposing to facilitate funding for extension via external service delivery agents.
Industry have concerns around returning to previous models of adoption.	SRA's new approach to industry services is an evolution of previous approaches and is enhanced through the combination of specific research expertise with industry engagement functions.
Sugar industry expertise must be preserved.	This Strategic Plan preserves both external and internal capability and expertise.
Milling should be recognised within SRA's Research Missions.	Milling has been incorporated into SRA's Research Missions.
Mill viability should be more prominent in SRA's Research Missions.	