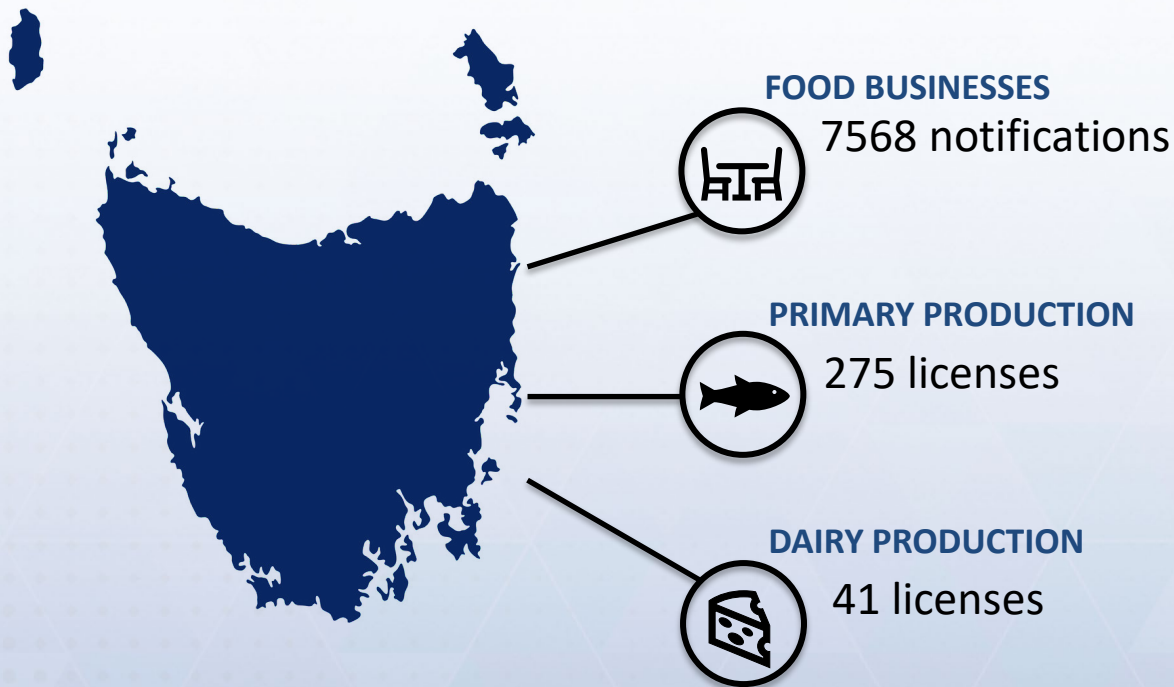


Post Harvest Food Regulation

Karen Loone – Acting Program Manager Primary Produce
Safety
(NRE Tas)

Stewart Quinn – Manager Environmental Health
(Department of Health)

Food regulatory system in Tasmania



- Dept of Health
- Local government

- Dept Natural Resources and Environment Tas

- Tasmanian Dairy Industry Authority

Food regulatory system in Tasmania

PRIMARY PRODUCTION



275 licenses
70 shellfish

- Dept Natural Resources and Environment Tas
- DAWE

- Administer the *Primary Produce Safety Act 2011 including Seafood Regulations*
- Develop and apply food safety science, programs and policy
- Direct regulators of PPP businesses
- FTE currently 1.8 (normally 2.8)



Food Safety

FOOD BUSINESSES

7568 notifications



- **Dept of Health**
- Local government

- Administer the *Food Act 2003*
- Develop and apply food safety science, programs and policy
- Food safety regulation
- FTE – currently 2.6 (normally 3.1)



Roles and Functions

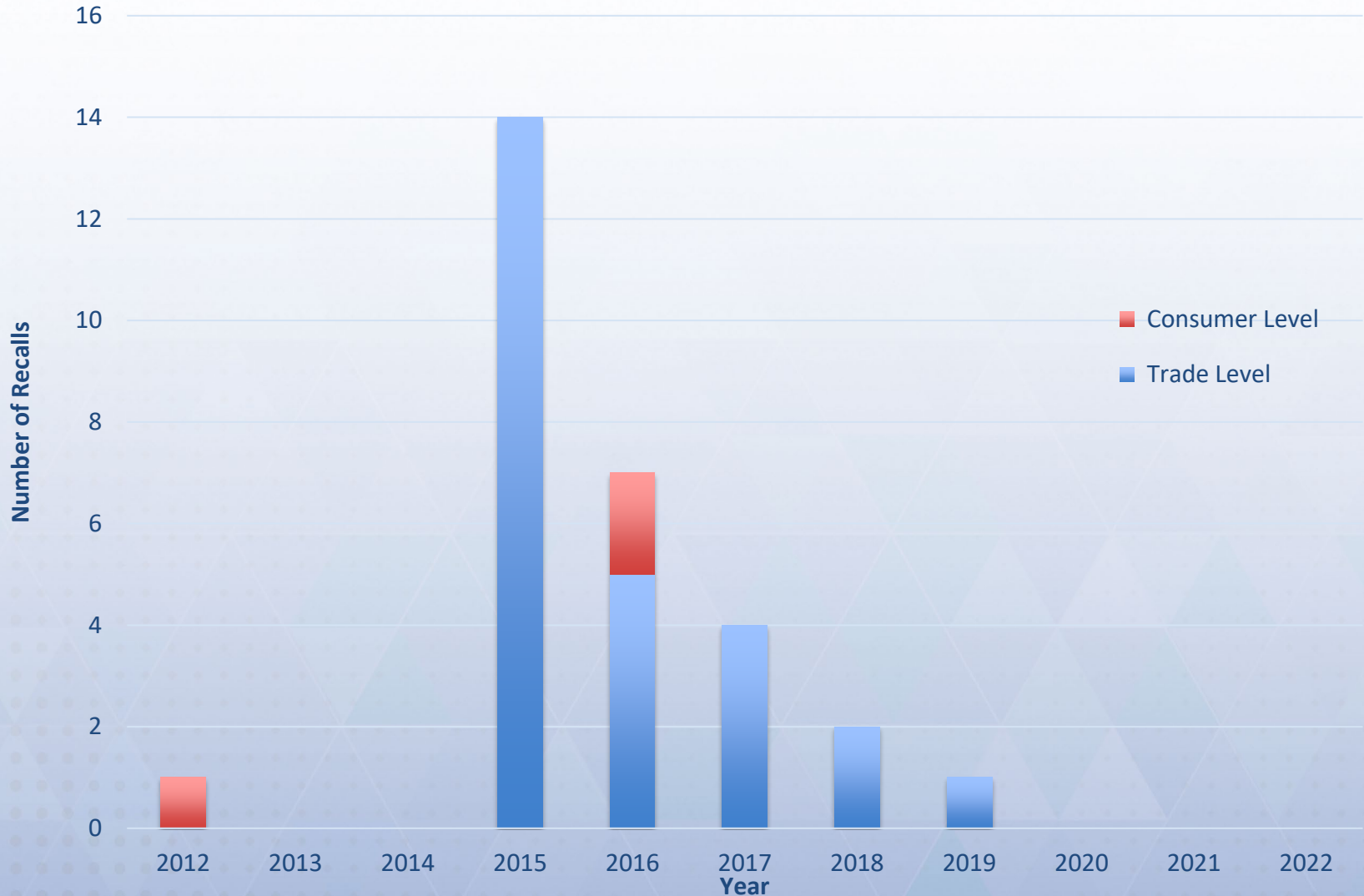
DoH

- Receive food contaminant and case notifications under *Public Health Act 1997*
- Coordinate food incident response and national reporting
- Coordinate the Food Recall System in TAS
- Undertake surveillance activities
- Have clinical, toxicology & Epi resources

NRE Tas

- Are the direct regulator/licensing Authority under PPSA
- Approve Management Systems, oversee audit
- Approve construction of facilities
- Act on notifications referred via DoH
- Manage PPP recalls and engage with stakeholders
- Undertake direct investigation and response

Recalls of Tasmanian Shellfish 2012 - 2022



WHO RECALLS FOOD IN AUSTRALIA?

FSANZ can't order or force a food recall. Only Australian states and territories have enforcement powers to mandate, order or force a recall if necessary.

FOOD BUSINESSES

Must notify their business customers and local food enforcement agency that a food recall is needed.

Must provide information to FSANZ about the recalled food.

Must notify the public of the recall



ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

Confirm that a recall is needed and work with the food business to recall the food.

Check that the business is effectively recalling the food.



FSANZ

Coordinates the recall with the relevant jurisdiction and food business.

Informs government, industry and international government contacts of the recall and advises consumers via the FSANZ website and social media platforms.



Trade

Consumer

Withdrawal

Recall Triggers

Awareness of potential safety issue with product

(case notification, complaint, food sample etc)

Product identification

Product tracing

(forward and backwards)

Harvest details & distribution

May seek additional information from labs and additional case information (if human case)

Assessment and decision

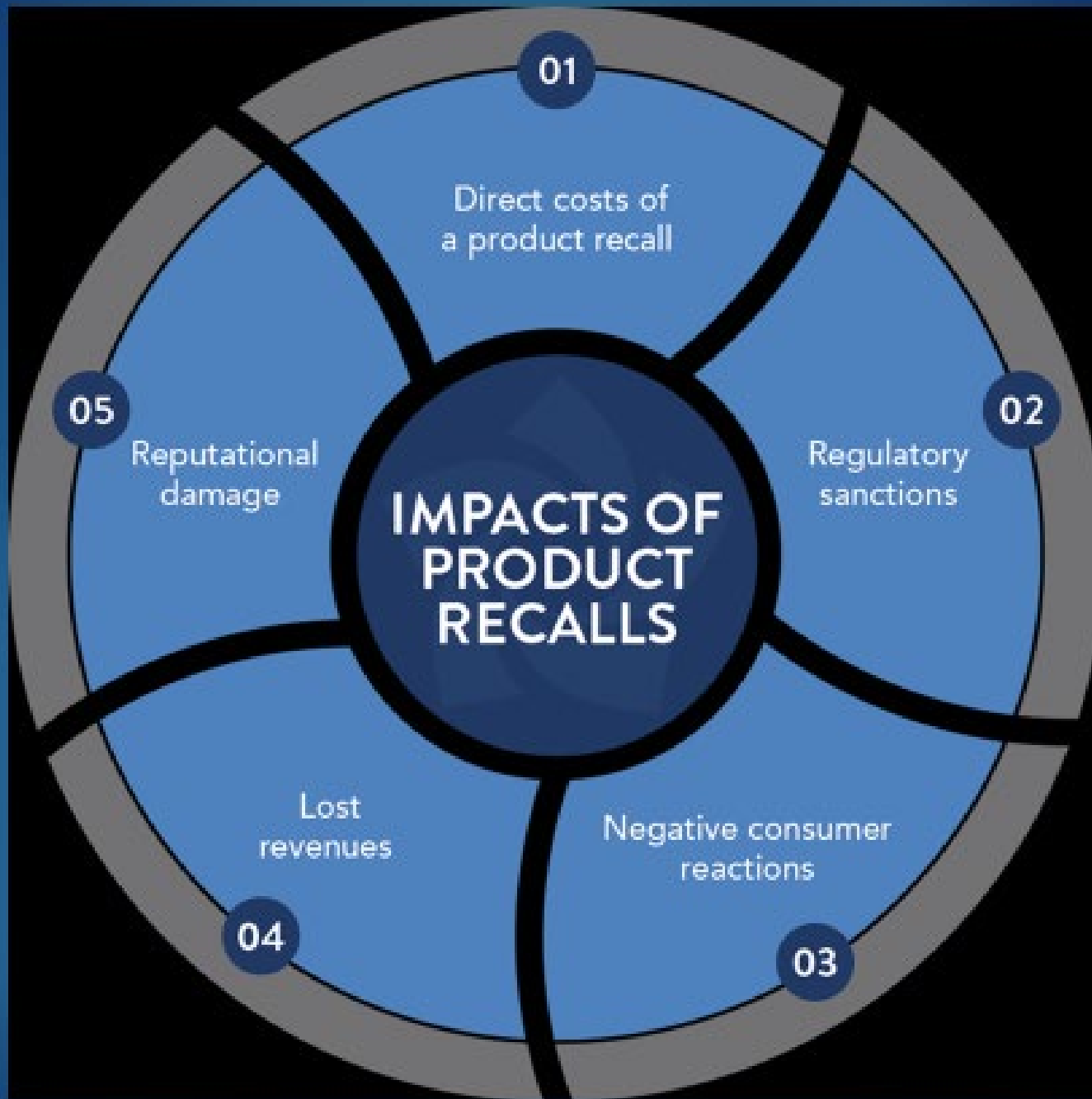
Recall (trade or consumer)

or

No Recall required

Important Issues to Consider

- know your recall plan in advance (you have to have one – so know what it says and what the process is)
- Harvest and distribution records are critical – and should be accessible in a very timely manner.
- *Any unreasonable delay in supplying harvest details when requested could mean that other action is taken (eg Govt media statement to advise public not to eat products while distribution/harvest info is gathered)*
- Focus on advising customers and FSANZ of product recall details – not retrieving stock back to put in water
- Strongly suggest having draft media statements pre-prepared (that can be easily amended for a given situation)



Questions and Discussion