

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES - 4 JUNE 2013 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Targeted efficiency measures – replacing cheques with EFT - savings

Question reference number: HS 6

Senator: Fifield

Type of question: Hansard page 62

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Question:

Mr Box: We are just getting the breakdown for you for each of those measures. We have the figure for replacing cheques with AFT for you. In 2013-14 it is actually an increase in costs to set it up of \$0.9 million. There are then savings in the out years. The saving for 2014-15 is \$2.8 million; 2015-16, \$2.7 million; and in 2016-17, \$2.6 million.

Senator FIFIELD: Do those savings increase in a similar fashion beyond the forward estimates?

Mr Box: I would have to take that on notice. I am not sure whether we have done those costings, so we will have to do that.

Answer:

The savings do not increase. The net savings decline from \$2.9 million in 2014-15, through \$2.8 million in 2015-16, to \$2.7 million in 2016-17. The savings will be maintained beyond the forward estimates at the rate shown for 2016-17, adjusted for inflation and the efficiency dividend.