

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-14, 20 November 2013

Question: E13-175

OUTCOME: 1 – Population Health

Topic: Front-of-Package Labelling

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McKenzie

Question:

What is the current timeline for implementation of the new system?

Answer:

On 14 June 2013, the Legislative and Governance Forum on Food Regulation (the Forum) noted that the preferred implementation option for the Health Star Rating (HSR) system in Australia is a voluntary system.

The Forum also decided at its June 2013 meeting that if, following evaluation after two years, a voluntary implementation of the HSR system is found to be unsuccessful, it would consider a mandatory approach.

The two year voluntary implementation period commenced on 14 June 2013.