

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2013 - 2014, 26 February 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000363

OUTCOME: 1 - Population Health

Topic: Health Star Rating Website Removal

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McLucas Jan

Question:

What were the reasons given to the department for the Minister's office directive to remove the health food star rating website?

Answer:

The Health Star Rating System was not in place, which would lead to confusion for consumers.

The explanatory education and communications information were still being developed.

The processes to deal with potential anomalies are still being developed.

The cost benefit analysis noted by the Legislative and Governance Forum on Food Regulation at its meeting on 13 December 2013 was not yet completed.