

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-004

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: BLEWETT REVIEW

Written Question on Notice

Senator Xenophon asked:

In relation to the Blewett Review, does the Department consider the overall findings of the Review should be given more weight than the specific recommendations?

Answer:

The Australian Government is working with the jurisdictions and the New Zealand Government to develop a whole-of-Australia and New Zealand Food Regulation Ministerial Council (Ministerial Council) response to the 61 recommendations of *Labelling Logic*, the final report of the independent Panel for the Review of Food Labelling Law and Policy.

The Ministerial Council will consider its response to these recommendations at its meeting in December 2011. The recommendations of *Labelling Logic* are broad-ranging and seek to address many complex food labelling issues. The development of the response includes the careful consideration of the impact of each specific recommendation.

The Ministerial Council during its meeting on 6 May 2011 agreed to a strategic approach in considering the recommendations contained in the Report. A framework has been developed as a guide for developing the response, which observes the linkages between many of the recommendations and recognises the principles-based approach that underpins the *Labelling Logic* Report.