Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

2013-14 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross Outcome - Across Programs Question No: 375

Topic: Welfare reform **Hansard Page:** Written

Senator Moore asked:

Has Mr Patrick McClure been contracted for the welfare reform review?

- a) If so, for how long?
- b) Have terms of reference for this review been developed?
- c) Has he been given any departmental staff?
- d) Will there be submissions open to the review?
- e) Will there be a discussion paper circulated?
- f) What is the estimated cost of the review?

Answer:

The Minister for Social Services has appointed Mr Patrick McClure to advise the Department in its considerations of Australia's welfare system. Mr McClure's appointment took effect on 17 December 2013 and is until 30 June 2014.

Mr McClure's role is to advise the Department on options to ensure Australia's welfare system is sustainable, effective and coherent and encourages workforce participation. He has not been given any Departmental staff.

The Department does not currently anticipate that there will be a discussion paper or public submissions.

The department has allocated \$1,730,864 from within existing resources for the review, primarily for salary costs.