

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 41  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division  
**Topic:** COMMONWEALTH MARINE RESERVES - FISHING ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 29 October 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Singh asked:**

What assistance will those businesses who restructured their operations to remain viable receive from the Government until the Fisheries Adjustment Package is delivered?

**Answer:**

A revised fisheries adjustment assistance package is proposed to be developed once the review of the Commonwealth marine reserves is complete, alongside the development of new management plans.

The first stage of the former Fisheries Adjustment Assistance Package was proposed to provide 'Transitional Business Assistance', to assist fishers to restructure their fishing operations prior to the management plans coming into effect. Guidelines for eligibility for Transitional Business Assistance had not been finalised prior to the suspension of the Fisheries Adjustment Assistance Package.

It would have been premature for commercial fishing businesses to assume their eligibility and level of assistance that might have been provided under that programme.