



Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016-17
Thursday, 20 October 2016
Daily summary

The committee met from 9.00am until 11.00pm

The committee called:

- the department and agencies of the Social Services portfolio (including Human Services), including Australian Institute of Family Studies, National Disability Insurance Agency, and Australian Hearing.

Areas the committee discussed include:

- Minister Porter's public statements on the cost of welfare and predicted growth rates
- Incomes of recipients of Newstart payments
- PwC report – investment approach to welfare
- Data exchange with grant programs
- Statistics on Newstart recipients' capacity to work
- Aged pension payment changes
- National Disability Insurance Scheme Portal issues
- Debit Card Trial – Ceduna and Kununurra
- National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness funding and update
- The scoping study for the future ownership of Australian Hearing
- Medical reviews of people on disability support pensions
- Average time to process claims for aged pensions
- Average wait times for Centrelink call centres