

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2016-2017 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 2.1 Families and Communities**

**Question No: SQ17-000062**

**Topic: Cashless Debit Card**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Rachel Siewert asked:**

Are you collaborating data with the WA Government to examine the impact of the card and people's ability to repay debts owed to Fines and Infringements?

**Answer:**

The Department of Social Services (DSS) receives social harm data from the Western Australia (WA) Government to determine the trial's potential impact on welfare-fuelled alcohol consumption, drug abuse and gambling.

Due to privacy considerations, DSS does not receive information from the WA Government with respect to the ability of individual participants to repay debts owed to fines and infringements.

A person's ability to repay fines is not impacted by being a trial participant. Trial participants can repay fines and infringements using the Cashless Debit Card.