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

Outcome Number: 1.8 Income Support for People with DisabilityQuestion No: SQ17-000071

Topic: Medical Review

Hansard page: 86

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

Please advise of those whose income support status changed from DSP to an activity-tested payment, such as youth allowance or Newstart, as a consequence of the medical review and what proportion of them subsequently reported earnings or gained employment?

Answer:

A total of 3,940 people who were found not to be eligible for DSP following an under 35 DSP review were found to be eligible for Newstart Allowance (NSA) and Youth Allowance (other) (YA(o)):

- As at 30 December 2016, 737 people who moved onto NSA and YA(o) after the reviews have exited payment. The data does not identify why a person exited payment but may include finding employment.
- As at 30 December 2016, 2,877 people were still on NSA and YA(o), with 520 (18 per cent) recipients reporting earnings in the last fortnight.
- As at 30 December 2016, 326 people who moved onto NSA and YA(o) after the reviews have subsequently moved to other income support payments.