Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

2015-16 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 2.1 Families and Communities

Question No: SQ15-000805

Topic: Income Management

Hansard page: Written

Senator McLucas asked:

The 2014-15 Budget extended income management in the areas it was currently operating in for 12 months. What is the status of this funding?

a. In what communities does income management currently operate?

b. Has the Government extended funding for income management in all current locations? If not, which communities will no longer be subject to income management?c. How much funding has been committed, or will be committed, for the continuation of income management over the forward estimates?

d. Is the Government considering expanding income management?

Answer:

In the 2014-15 Budget, the Government announced the continuation of income management for one year in existing locations. These locations include the Northern Territory, Perth metropolitan and Kimberley regions, the Ngaanyatjarra (Ng) Lands, Kiwirrkurra and Laverton Shire in Western Australia, and the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands in South Australia. Funding of approximately \$101.1 million was allocated in the Budget for this continuation. This funding extended the programme until 30 June 2015.

Income management currently operates in the five trial sites operating under the Building Australia's Future Workforce initiative, including Logan, Rockhampton (Qld); Bankstown (NSW); Greater Shepparton (Vic); and Playford (SA), as well as Cape York, the Northern Territory, Perth metropolitan and Kimberley regions, the Ngaanyatjarra (Ng) Lands, Kiwirrkurra and Laverton Shire in Western Australia, the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands and Ceduna and the surrounding region in South Australia.

The 2015-16 Federal Budget announced funding of \$146.7 million over two years for the continuation of income management in existing sites until 30 June 2017. This aligns funding across all income management sites. The two year continuation includes the option to expand the programme in up to a further four locations over the two year period.