

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2012-13 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3

Question No: 35

Topic: Place-Based Income Management Trial Sites

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Cash asked:

On average and based on the results from and experience of these trials, would you think it is likely that it will be more expensive to administer voluntary income management than compulsory income management going forward?

Answer:

Place-based income management costs are not divided per measure as the total costs include shared establishment costs such as:

- policy and process development;
- infrastructure, such as changes and enhancements to Centrelink systems;
- support for merchants who accept income managed funds from customers;
- establishment of wrap around support services such as Financial Management Support Services.

As this infrastructure has now been established, the ongoing costs are expected to be similar for each measure.