

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2013-14 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1

Question No: 200

Topic: Family and Children

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Cash asked:

With regard to the changes announced in the Budget reducing the allowed period of temporary absence from Australia for persons receiving FTB A, Schoolkids Bonus and Paid Parental Leave from three years to one year:

- a. When was the Department directed to model these changes, and by whom?
- b. How many persons are expected to lose payments as a result of these changes?
- c. How has the Department arrived at a savings estimate for this measure? What assumptions were made?

Answer:

- a. It is not appropriate for the Department to provide information regarding the deliberations of Government.
- b. Families of around 2,800 children will be affected by these changes in the first year.
- c. The Department incorporated a range of assumptions in the costing model used for the measure, *Family and Parental Payments – change to rules for receiving payments overseas*. These assumptions were:
 - growth in overall Family Tax Benefit payment rates in line with the forecast changes to the Consumer Price Index;
 - forecast changes to Family Tax Benefit population numbers
 - average rates paid to the affected population, and
 - administrative data on stays outside Australia by Family Tax Benefit families.