



**PENNY ALLMAN-PAYNE**  
GREENS SENATOR FOR QUEENSLAND

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27 November, 2025

Mr Michael Lye  
Secretary Department of Social Services  
Via email:

**RE: Request for Information Prepared Ahead of Community Affairs' Estimates Hearing**

Dear Secretary Lye,

I write to you to request information to be prepared by the Department of Social Services ahead of the Community Affairs' estimates hearing next week.

Partner Income Test

- List all payments that are impacted by the Income Partner Test
- How many individuals receiving payments have their payments impacted by the Income Partner Test? Please provide this broken down by payment type.
- What is the average reduction in payment for payments impacted by the Income Partner Test? Please provide this broken down by payment type.
- What modeling has the Department undertaken to understand the number of individuals whose payments are impacted by the Income Partner Test?
- What modeling has the Department undertaken to understand the number of individuals who are unable to access any payments as a result of the Income Partner Test?
- How many individuals does the Department estimate are not eligible to receive a payment as a result of the Income Partner Test who otherwise would be able to? Please provide this per payment that the Income Partner Test applies to.
- What advice and consultation has been recently undertaken by the Department in relation to the continuation of the Income Partner Test?
- What advice and consultation has been recently undertaken by the Department in relation to the potential for the Income Partner Test to result in an individual's loss of financial independence and result in greater vulnerabilities for financial abuse and domestic violence?
- What rationale has the Department provided as advice to the Government in relation to continuing to maintain the Income Partner Test?

Partner Income Test and the Senate Inquiry into the Disability Support Pension

- What advice did the Department provide to the Government in preparation for the 2024 Government Response to the Senate Inquiry into the Disability Support Pension?



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- What advice did the Department provide to the Government in relation to their decision to consider a "substantive government response...no longer appropriate"?

I would appreciate it if these questions could be provided by no later than COB Tuesday 2 December 2025 in preparation for the hearings on Thursday 4 December.

Thank you very much for your assistance with providing this information.

Kind regards,



Senator Penny Allman-Payne