

**Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights**

18 June 2021

**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Department of Social Services

**Topic:** Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights - Inquiry into ParentsNext: Examination of Social Security (Parenting payment participation requirements - class of persons) Instrument 2021.

**Question reference number:** IQ21-000050

**Senator:** Anne Webster

**Type of Question:** Written. **Hansard Page/s:**

**Date set by the Committee for the return of answer:** 5 July 2021

**Question:**

1. Please outline how, and according to what criteria, the quantum of Parenting Payment for singles and couples is determined. Is this assessed by reference to an amount of money required for an adequate standard of living in Australia today? If so, how?

**Answer:**

The rate for payment of Parenting Payment (PP) of singles and couples is calculated consistent with the provisions of the *Social Security Act 1991* (the Act). Where a person is single their rate is worked out using the Pension PP (Single) Rate Calculator, section 1068A of the Act. Where a person is partnered their rate is worked out using the Benefit PP (Partnered) Rate Calculator, section 1068B of the Act.