

My belief is that the interventions assist a small group of people, who have welcomed them. For everyone else, they have been an imposition with the STIGMA of a card that distinguishes someone who has had their benefit quarantined, fully or in part. If the stigma of the distinguishing card was removed, there would be a valid choice for the intervention or not, as the situation of the individual might necessitate.

There are some people in the wider community in my district who depend on a fortnightly benefit from the Federal Government, and for whom an intervention would be of great benefit, but the use of a distinguishing card is the biggest deterrent for them.

The stigma of the unique card that tells every retailer that the holder has been the subject of intervention is the biggest downside to the whole system, which does have some tangible benefit for some people.

The intervention, without a distinguishing card, and with a choice of opting in (or otherwise) should be offered to many who receive social security benefits.

Lou Hollis

Wannon electorate