

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: 3

Question No: 210

Topic: Income Management - enhanced service delivery

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Cash asked:

Regarding the \$1.9 million over the forward estimates announced in the 2013-14 Budget to improve the delivery of income management across Australia: a. What initiatives are to be funded by this appropriation? b. Will any of these measures improve the cost-effectiveness or functioning of income management in the place-based trial sites? c. How many more persons are expected to be placed on income management as a result of these measures?

Answer:

- a. These improvements include the automatic transition onto the vulnerable measure of income management for specific vulnerable groups. This allocation will also provide for the co-location of money management and Centrelink services in the Northern Territory, and a clearer process for parents to seek exemption from compulsory income management.
- b. The Department expects the new triggers for the Vulnerable Welfare Payment Recipient Measure will increase the number of income management participants in place-based sites, creating economies of scale.
- c. Since Centrelink social workers will have the discretion to exclude a person from the vulnerable measure of income management it is not possible to estimate customer numbers at this time.