

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: 226

Topic: New Categories of IM

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

Has the risk that young people will not leave situations of domestic abuse because of this policy been considered? Will the domestic violence exemptions apply?

Answer:

Income management is a budgeting tool that can help people pay for essentials like food, rent, clothing, health care, utilities and school expenses, for the benefit of themselves and their dependents. It has assisted numerous families, and focuses on building financial literacy and money management skills. There is no evidence that income management has impacted young people's willingness to leave situations of family violence.

A Centrelink social worker may determine that a person is excluded from the new triggers of the vulnerable measure of income management if being subject to income management under this measure would place the person's mental, physical or emotional wellbeing at risk.