

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 5-6 JUNE 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Income support payments - Compliance in relation to Under 30s Measure

Question reference number: HS 34

Senator: Siewert

Type of question: Hansard page 22, 6 June 2014

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 25 July 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator SIEWERT: Will there be flexibility for people that have not got money for transport—bearing in mind they have no money? If a JSA comes to you and says they have not met this compliance, they have not contacted us for this month and they have not been in to see us—we did have a discussion about online and, depending on your circumstances, it is not always going to be easy to get online—what will be your response then? If you get something from a JSA saying this person with no payment has not turned up for an appointment, what will be your response?

Ms Campbell: These are some of the details that are still being worked out with the Department of Employment. The period could be extended. We would have to talk with the Department of Employment about things that would be considered a reasonable excuse or that sort of thing. But these are bits of detail that are still being discussed and sorted. They are not settled yet.

Senator SIEWERT: Maybe you could take that on notice because, obviously, we would like to know this prior to the next estimates. Could you take on notice what those arrangements will be.

Answer:

The policy and rules pertaining to these matters are still being settled with the Department of Employment as the relevant policy department.