

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1.10 Working Age Payments

Question No: SQ15-000615

Topic: 4 week waiting period

Hansard page: Written

Senator Siewert, Rachel asked:

Provide details of any financial assistance that will be made available to job seekers who experience financial difficulties during the 4 week waiting period? How much money will be available for emergency relief? What advice will be given to DHS social workers re: assistance for people during the 4 week waiting period?

Answer:

From 1 July 2016, pending the passage of legislation, around \$8.1 million over three years in additional funding will be available to Emergency Relief providers to offer material aid to young people during the four week waiting period. Assistance will vary according to the needs and circumstances of the person.

The Department is not able to provide detail of the advice to be given to DHS social workers as those details are yet to be finalised.