Senate Community Affairs Committee ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

2014-15 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1

Question No: 189

Topic: Newstart/New Zealand

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Moore asked:

I refer to a response provided by Mr Emerson that, "At the 20-day mark if they have completed their 20-day pre-benefit activities they will be paid at five weeks but some of that would be back paid depending on their individual circumstances." (Hansard, page 68 refers).

Is it not correct that all (rather than 'some') of that would be back paid? Please provide details of circumstances in which not all of that money would be backpaid, and please provide details of the 'personal circumstances' to which Mr Emerson refers.

Answer:

As this question relates to the detail of the New Zealand system, it is more appropriate for the New Zealand government to answer.