

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2016-17 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1.8 Income Support for People with Disability Question No: SQ16-000319

Topic: Policy & Evaluation

Hansard page: Written

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

Has the Government considered conducting an impact evaluation of the DSP reviews so that the data collected can be used for an impact analysis or a randomised controlled trial?

Answer:

The qualification criteria for DSP are set out in the *Social Security Act 1991*.

Reviews of DSP recipients are undertaken to establish qualification for payment as set out in law.

People who meet the qualification criteria are entitled to receive DSP, while DSP cannot be paid to people who do not meet the criteria. For this reason, a randomised controlled trial of reviews is not suitable.

The Department closely considers outcomes from reviews. Data resulting from the DSP reviews can be used to inform future policy, including the Australian Priority Investment Approach to welfare.