

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

Outcome Number: 1.10 Working Age Payments

Question No: SQ16-000456

Topic: Newstart

Hansard page: 35

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

Of those who had been reviewed on DSP who had moved to Newstart, can you identify how many, if any, of them has a subsequent partial capacity to work and how many, if any, of them had a subsequent exemption from the activity test or JobSearch due to a temporary incapacity to work?

Answer:

As at the end of September 2016, there were 2,735 recipients on Newstart Allowance (NSA) who had previously transferred from Disability Support Pension (DSP) to NSA as a result of the under 35s review of DSP. Of these, 2,602 recipients (or 95 per cent) had a partial capacity to work and 199 recipients (or 7 per cent) had a medical exemption from Mutual Obligation requirements.

(Please note, these are not unique groups – recipients with both a partial capacity to work and an exemption would be counted in both groups).