

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Centrelink

Budget Estimates 2007-08 - May 2007

Question: HS65

Outcome1, Output 1.1

Topic: Centrelink – Single mothers reporting to Centrelink in person

Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Written Question on Notice

SENATOR SIEWERT asked on 24/05/2007:

1. How have the participation requirements been changed for single mothers who are working so that they now do not have to attend Centrelink in person? Is it just a directive from the Minister?
2. Is it just single mothers in work that do not have to visit in person?

Answer:

1. The Department of Employment and Workplace Relations advised Centrelink of a policy to allow all principal carer parents, including single mothers who are fully meeting their requirements, to be able to report their earnings in a manner other than face-to-face, including telephone and internet.
2. No, the policy relates to all principal carer parents and also includes customers who are fully meeting their requirements by studying or have exemptions.