

Joint Committee on Human Rights inquiry into compulsory income management

Public Hearing – 5 July 2024

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

Topic: Joint Committee on Human Rights inquiry into compulsory income management

Question reference number: IQ24-000042

Question asked by: Josh Burns

Type of Question: Written **Hansard Page/s:** N/A

Date set by the Committee for the return of answer: 10 July 2024

Question:

2. What is the average length of time that people are subject to compulsory income management? What is the longest period of time that people have been continuously subject to compulsory income management (including periods where such persons may have been subject to the cashless debit card)?

Answer:

As at 31 May 2024, of all Income Management (IM) and enhanced IM participants, the average length of time a participant is subjected to any form of compulsory IM is approximately 1,180 days. This includes any time on IM, enhanced IM or the Cashless Debit Card since their respective program inception dates.

Less than 5 individuals have been subject to compulsory IM continuously since 2008. Note, under the Department of Social Services data policy, counts of less than 5 people but more than zero are suppressed so that people cannot be identified.