Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights

Public Hearing – 29 July 2024

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

Topic: Inquiry into Compulsory Income Management

Question reference number: IQ24-000153

Question asked by: Lidia Thorpe

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

Date set by the Committee for the return of answer: 05 August 2024

Question:

4. Income management was introduced in 2007, when parliament suspended the racial discrimination to implement a racist policy, which otherwise would not pass as it would be deemed as racial discrimination. Why does this government still support clearly racist policies against First Peoples?

Answer:

The Department of Social Services is undertaking extensive consultations on the future of IM, in line with the Government's commitment to reform IM, and end broad-based compulsory measures. Please refer to SQ24-000584 for more detail on consultation activity, including how First Nations organisation, ETM Perspectives is facilitating consultation with communities and other stakeholders.