

Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs

Public Hearing – 22 January 2024

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

Topic: Review into Income Management

Question reference number: IQ24-000004

Question asked by: Janet Rice

Type of Question: Spoken. **Hansard Page/s:** 37

Date set by the Committee for the return of answer: 1 February 2024

Question:

Senator RICE: I'm wondering whether there is some interim information from the consultations you have undertaken so far that you would be able to provide to us.

Ms Hope: Senator, as Mr. Burford said, there's not a report of. There's a range of issues that we're hearing.

Senator RICE: I understand that, but I'm interested to know and basically all you've told me so far, there's a range of issues, there's a range of views. Surely you've got notes of these meetings that have been undertaken so far because the Senate has got this timeline that we need to make a decision on and it would be of great benefit to us to be able to get those preliminary, acknowledging they're preliminary acknowledging that they are only the beginning of the consultation, but of benefit to us to get some feedback about the results of that consultation process so far

Mr Burford: Senator, we can take that on notice about what's reasonable to provide, given what I've said about the small number so far that we've been able to talk to on participants.

Answer

There have been a range of views provided during consultation activities to date, however the department is not in a position to share these given the early stage of this phase of consultation.

Publication of consultation findings is a decision for Government.