

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Social Services Portfolio
2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1

Question No: 64

Topic: Disability Support Pension - Review Recipients aged under 35 years

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Brown asked:

What does the Department expect will be the outcomes of these reviews?

Answer:

Subject to legislation passing to allow the program of support requirements to apply on review, certain DSP recipients subject to review who have a work capacity of 8 or more hours per week and do not have a dependent child under 6 years will be required to undertake an 18 month program of support to help them participate in the workforce. These people will continue to receive DSP while undertaking the program and will have up to 3 years to complete it. On completion of the program their work capacity will be re-assessed to determine whether they remain eligible for DSP.

It is estimated that approximately 5 per cent of DSP recipients reviewed under this measure will have their DSP cancelled.

DSP recipients who are no longer qualified for DSP following review may be eligible for another income support payment, such as Newstart Allowance. They will be referred to an employment services program such as Disability Employment Services or Job Services Australia to support them to prepare for and find work.

Those who remain qualified for DSP will be supported through the participation requirements measure to improve their capacity.