

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

Outcome Number: 1

Question No: 183

Topic: Newstart Allowance

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Moore asked:

Does the term 'principal carer' include those who care for people with a disability, mental illness, the frail aged and those with chronic illness?

Answer:

In the context of proposed exemptions to be applied to the new measures in the 2014-15 Budget for young people aged up to 30 years to strengthen participation, the term 'principal carer' refers to a person who is a principal carer of a child.

Under Social Security legislation, a person is a principal carer of a child if:

- the child is a dependent child of the person (i.e. the adult has legal responsibility for the day-to-day care, welfare and development of the child and the young person is in the adult's care), and
- the child has not turned 16 years of age.