

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

Outcome Number: 1

Question No: 338

Topic: Stronger Participation for Jobseekers under 30

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Brown asked:

What arrangements for accommodation will be made to ensure that care leavers have somewhere to live while they participate in job seeking activities for the six months before becoming eligible for payments?

a. If nothing, are you saying that care leavers will essentially be left without any government support in the first six months that they are out of care? Do you think that is appropriate?

Answer:

Under the National Affordable Housing Agreement, States and Territories are responsible for the supply of affordable housing across metropolitan and regional areas which have different employment opportunities and transport infrastructure.

The Government has also provided an additional \$229.6 million in job seeker support over four years, from 1 January 2015 to 30 June 2018, for young people affected by the Stronger Participation Incentives for Job Seekers under 30s Initiative who are in financial hardship.

Any further exemptions would be a decision for Government and would be dealt with through a disallowable instrument.

The Senate has resolved that officers of a department of the Commonwealth shall not be asked to give opinions on matters of policy.