

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

Outcome Number: 2

Question No: 392

Topic: Income Management

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

- (a) What is the cost of administering the basic card, per person, per year?
- (b) What is the breakdown of this cost?

Answer:

The Australian Government provided \$101.1 million in 2014-15 for the continuation of income management in the Northern Territory, and in trial sites in Perth and the Kimberley region, Laverton, and Ngaanyatjarra Lands of Western Australia and Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands in South Australia. The introduction of income management to Ceduna and the surrounding region in South Australia for one year (1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015) is included in this funding.

The Australian Government also provided \$117.5 million over five years (2011-12 until 2015-16) to administer income management in the five 'place-based' locations of Logan and Rockhampton (QLD), Bankstown (NSW), Greater Shepparton (Vic) and Playford (SA).

The Department of Human Services administers the Income Management Card and Related Services Contract with Indue Limited for BasicsCard transactions services. The budgeted Administered Expenses for 2014/15 for this activity is \$3 million.

It is not possible to separate out funding for each person as a proportion of the costs are fixed national costs.