

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2017-18 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1.10 Working Age Payments

Question No: SQ17-000486

Topic: Drug Testing

Hansard page: Written

Senator Gavin Marshall asked:

Given this program could see more people referred to existing rehabilitation programs, how many people outside of the income support system are expected to be denied access to treatment because of the increased demand that may be generated as a result of this system?

Answer:

The selection of trial sites for the proposed drug testing trial is being carefully considered and will be informed by the best available evidence and data, including in relation to the availability of treatment and support services.

The Department of Social Services will also be working with state and territory governments in the selected trial sites to ensure that jobseekers are able to access appropriate treatment and support services, without disrupting the needs of the broader public to access these facilities.