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: SQ17-000489

Topic: Drug Testing

Hansard page: Written

Senator Gavin Marshall asked:

What consultations has the government undertaken with medical professionals about making drug and alcohol programs part of the job plan? What did they say? How were their concerns taken into account?

Answer:

The Government has commenced engagement with state and territory government departments and key welfare sector, alcohol and other drug sector and health sector stakeholder groups regarding the drug testing trial.

Further engagement with these sectors will be undertaken once the trial sites have been selected. Feedback provided by stakeholders will be shared with the Department of Human Services, and shall be used to address micro-policy issues and inform the implementation of the drug trial.