

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: SQ17-000506

Topic: Drug Testing

Hansard page: Written

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

What will happen to an individual who refuses a drug test?

Answer:

If a job seeker attends their appointment but refuses to take a test when required, their payment will be immediately cancelled and they will be subject to a four week exclusion period before they can return to payment. This will ensure that job seekers cannot temporarily leave payment in order to avoid a drug test. Job seekers will be advised of the consequences of refusing the test upfront when the requirement to undertake the test is given by a Department of Human Services officer at their appointment.