

**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: SQ17-000513**

**Topic: Drug Testing**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Rachel Siewert asked:**

What data will be used by Data61 and the CSIRO in their 'profiling tool' to identify characteristics that indicate that a person receiving NSA or YA (Other) is at higher risk of using illicit drugs?

**Answer:**

Risk profiling will be used as part of the drug testing trial to identify particular characteristics that indicate a higher risk of substance misuse issues. This is designed to help maximise the chances of identifying those job seekers who may need help to overcome their substance abuse.

The risk profile will be informed by analysis of de-identified data from the social security administrative data set. This data set contains a range of information on social security claimants. It also contains high level indicators of a job seeker's alcohol and/or drug issues where recorded, for example, as part of an assessment of the job seekers work capacity or for incapacity exemption purposes.