

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2013-14 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 4

Question No: 297

Topic: Income support for Seniors

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Moore asked:

Is any work being undertaken by the department to examine options for reducing the future costs associated with the Widow B Pension? If so, what work is being undertaken? Have staff been allocated? How many?

Answer:

As part of its ongoing policy work for government, the Department works on options around pension settings, some of which involve savings to budgets and some of which do not.

This is core business for the Department and is supported by evidence-based policy analysis and advice.

Widow B Pension is a closed payment. There have been no new grants since 20 March 1997.