

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 22 OCTOBER 2015 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Disability Support Pension – Medical Reviews

Question reference number: HS 88

Senator: Cameron

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 December 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Please provide details of outcomes associated with changes to DSP for recipients under 35 and outcomes from the Programme of Support.

Answer:

From 1 July 2014 to 30 October 2015, under the Budget measure, *Disability Support Pension (DSP) – review recipients aged under 35 years*, the Department completed 18,742 reviews. A further 5,762 reviews were in progress.

As at 30 October 2015, 2,562 recipients were found to be no longer eligible for DSP following a review. Of the 2,562 recipients who were found to be no longer eligible for DSP, 1,690 recipients had their payment cancelled as at 30 October 2015. The remaining 872 recipients continued to receive payments either because the recipient was in a period of grace or was eligible for Payment Pending Review.

Of the 16,180 reviews that resulted in a continuation of payment, 305 recipients were required to participate in a Program of Support. These recipients will continue to receive DSP conditionally for up to three years in order to complete a Program of Support, or actively participate in a Program of Support for at least 18 months.