

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2016-17 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1.10 Working Age Payments

Question No: SQ16-000315

Topic: Try, Test and Learn Fund

Hansard page: Written

Senator Rachel Siewert asked:

Have any people on income support payments been consulted about the new investment approach?

a) If so, how many, when, where and how?

Answer:

People on income support payments have not been directly consulted about the new investment approach at this stage.

Peak bodies have been consulted, including (but not limited to) the National Welfare Rights Network, ACOSS and Relationships Australia at briefing sessions held prior to the launch of the Baseline Valuation Report for the Australian Priority Investment Approach on 20 September 2016.

Also, on 21 October 2016, stakeholders including service providers attended workshops that sought input on the design of the Try, Test and Learn Fund.

The Try, Test and Learn Fund is expected to have a strong co-design element that will include consultation with income support recipients; and the Department plans to engage with income support recipients and other stakeholders on the design of the Fund through a range of avenues including face-to-face meetings and teleconferences.

Income support recipients have ongoing opportunity to provide feedback on the Priority Investment Approach and the Try, Test and Learn Fund via the Investment Approach Mailbox. Details outlining access to the mailbox are on the Department's website.