

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

Outcome Number: 1.8 Income Support for People with Disability Question No: SQ16-000320

Topic: Policy & Evaluation

Hansard page: Written

Senator Siewert, Rachel asked:

Is the Government monitoring how many people moved off DSP onto Newstart have found work?

- a) If so, how many have?
- b) If not, why not?

Answer:

The Department regularly monitors payment recipient data and trends, and the impact of policy change, including the under 35s review of Disability Support Pension (DSP).

- a) As at the end of September 2016, there were 2,735 recipients on Newstart Allowance (NSA) who had previously transferred from DSP to NSA as a result of the under 35s review of DSP. Of these, 543 recipients (or 20 per cent) reported earnings in the previous fortnight. Data is not available on recipients who have left NSA payment to take up work, as this is not captured in the Department of Human Services IT system.