

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2011-12 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 3

**Question No:** 404

**Topic:** Welfare reforms to change personal behaviour

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Boyce asked:**

The Budget contains a number of measures that aim to bring about change in the personal behaviour of welfare recipients. An example of the measures contained in the budget is the continuation of the child protection and voluntary income management trial in WA. What tools will the department use to assess the success or otherwise of these measures?

**Answer:**

Funding in the 2011 Budget, to continue the income management trial in Western Australia to June 2012, also included funding for further evaluation. The 2011-12 evaluation will build on a previous study of these trials undertaken in 2009-10, the report of which can be found on the FaHCSIA website.

This evaluation will draw on a variety of data sources. This will include individual surveys and in-depth interviews with income management clients and intermediaries (those involved in implementing income management, including Centrelink staff, store merchants, money management and financial counselling service providers and child protection workers); and analysis of administrative data from government.