

Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 21 OCTOBER 2008

Human Services Portfolio



Department/Agency: Centrelink
Outcome/Output Group: Outcome 1/Output 1.1
Topic: Disability Support Pension

Senator: Siewert
Question reference number: HS21c
Type of question: Written
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 December 2008

Question:

HS21c: Since July 2008 how many people on the Disability Support Pension have been reviewed; how many stayed on DSP; how many moved to Newstart Allowance; how many people have applied for DSP; how many assessed to go on DSP; how many people have applied for DSP; how many assessed to go on DSP and how many assessed onto Newstart Allowance?

Answer:

HS21c: The answer to Senator Siewert's question is in two parts. The first part answers the question about DSP reviews and the second part answers the question about DSP claims.

DSP Reviews

For the period 1 July 2008 to 30 September 2008, 9,740 medical transition reviews have been completed for customers granted Disability Support Pension between 11 May 2005 and 30 June 2006.

Of the 9,740 customers reviewed, 696 customers have had their Disability Support Pension cancelled, as they no longer qualify for this payment. Of these, 203 are currently in receipt of Newstart Allowance.

DSP Claims

Between 1 July 2008 and 30 September 2008, 48,603 people claimed Disability Support Pension. Of those people, 25,212 were granted Disability Support Pension, 13,887 were rejected and 9,504 are yet to be determined. Those rejected will be assessed for other payments including Newstart Allowance. In some cases, people applying for Disability Support Pension are already in receipt of an alternate income support payment.

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