

Estimates Committee 2009 Questions Taken On Notice

(16/6/2009 to 19/6/2009)

Date: 18/06/2009 Output: 1.0 - NT Families and Children
Sub Output: 1.4 - Youth Services
Subject: NT Emergency Response - welfare quarantining - consideration of quarantining for urban areas

From: Ms Marion Scrymgour to Hon Malarndirri McCarthy
Department of Health and Families

Question: 7-7
Minister, one of the special measures under the Northern Territory Emergency Response was the issue of welfare quarantining, which went to the benefit of youth and children in our remote Aboriginal communities. Given some of the problems that we have in our urban centres, would you, as the minister, or the agency, with the work between the Northern Territory government and the Commonwealth, consider bringing in that special measure as part of dealing with youth problems in our urban centres?

Mr CHAIRMAN: Are you are happy to take that on notice?

Ms McCARTHY: I will take the question on notice. I do see it as a question about the expansion of the NTER, so I may need to discuss it a bit more in detail with the member for Arafura.

Ms SCRYMGOUR: I do not want the whole intervention put in. My personal view is that may be it could happen in Darwin, and I think that are probably areas that you could have in Darwin where you could intervene. I am talking about one small component of that, which is the special measure in relation to welfare quarantining.

Answer:
Answered On:
Answer:

Income quarantining is an Australian Government initiative. The initiative applies to 73 prescribed areas and associated outstations, and who live in town camps in and around major centres.

The Northern Territory government has no jurisdiction to prescribe income quarantining.