

HAYWOOD, Lauren

From: ASPINALL, Richard
Sent: Monday, 3 December 2012 8:36 PM
To: LIPARI, Joe; BENSON-LIDHOLM, Jennifer
Cc: WHYTE, Jennifer
Subject: FW: Feedback - Income Management Consultations - Ngaanyatjarra [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: Income Management Feedback.PDF

Can we discuss in the morning please?

-----Original Message-----

From: s47F - personal privacy
Sent: Monday, December 03, 2012 06:35 PM AUS Eastern Standard Time
To: ASPINALL, Richard
Subject: FW: Feedback - Income Management Consultations - Ngaanyatjarra [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Richard

I have attached the IM document I have received from FaHscia.

This does read a lot like an amalgam of an extract from "Building Australia's Future Work Force and a Ministerial press release on how the Government is going to deal with the chronic dysfunction in the APY Lands.

Humbug or more accurately "Too Much Humbug" is the language and the theoretical underpinning of the Intervention. It is not the language of Ngaanyatjarra people.

"**income management might help people to be motivated to do work in the community and to take responsibility in their lives.**" Is the political and policy language of mutual responsibility, behaviour change and welfare reform. It is not the language of Ngaanyatjarra people.

Most people said they liked the BasicsCard because:

- there are no fees charged for using the BasicsCard

Ngaanyatjarra people have never been charged fees outside that range in the wider community as has happened in many remote communities. It has been very difficult to engage community members on the effect of the cost of transaction fees.

s22 - irrelevant information

Transaction fees are not an issue, even if they should be.

I certainly did not get a sense that the hard won lessons learned during the s47F - personal privacy money lending saga in any sense informed the consultations.

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From: s47F - personal privacy
Date: Saturday, 1 December 2012 9:07 AM
To: s47F - personal privacy
Subject: FW: Feedback - Income Management Consultations - Ngaanyatjarra [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Imagine my surprise.

Ngaanyatjarra people have learnt to speak creole. Humbug?

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Hello,

In October, Minister Macklin responded to requests from the Ngaanyatjarra Lands by asking people from the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) to talk with local service providers and community members about Income Management. The majority of the feedback we received was very positive and we have attached a document with the feedback and concerns that were raised from the Ngaanyatjarra Lands, Laverton and Kalgoorlie.

Please display the information and speak with local community members and service providers about the feedback.

If you have any queries, contact Merle Ann Cochrane on ^{s47F - personal privacy} or by email

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Thanks for your assistance, Bye.

Timothy Brahim
Administration Officer
Indigenous Coordination Centre
PO Box 490
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Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
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Australian Government

Talking about income management

Information from the Ngaanyatjarra Lands income management consultations October 2012

In May and June, some people from the Ngaanyatjarra Lands told us that they wanted to know how income management could help families in their communities.

Minister Macklin responded by asking people from the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs to conduct information sessions and undertake further income management consultations in the Ngaanyatjarra Lands, Laverton and Kalgoorlie.

In October people from the Department came to talk to you about how income management might help and how it could work in your communities. They provided information, answered questions and listened to your views about income management.

What you told us

The majority of your feedback about income management was very positive. Most people said that income management could work well in the Ngaanyatjarra Lands.

People said it could work in the following ways:

- it could help some people not to spend all their money straight away and make sure they have enough for food between pay days
- income management could help people save for big things like washing machines, fridges, cars or holidays

- income management could help people with gambling problems and help stop parents gambling away money that should be spent on kids
- income management would be good because people can still spend some money on the things they like, but know they would have money left to buy food and clothes
- income management would help people budget their money better, look after their kids and help to keep families together
- income management may help people who smoke too much 'gunja' to spend their money on life's essentials instead.

Most people said that income management would be a good thing for others in the community as well. People said:

- income management could help stop humbug
- people on CDEP should be able to access income management
- people on the aged pension and disability support pension could be helped by income management
- income management might help people to be motivated to do work in the community and to take responsibility in their lives.

Most people said they liked the BasicsCard because:

- there are no fees charged for using the BasicsCard



a strong and fair society for *all* Australians

- some people have used a BasicsCard before, or have families living in the Northern Territory who have used the BasicsCard, and like it
- the BasicsCard would make sure people are buying food for their families rather than spending money on gambling, cigarettes or 'gunja'
- the BasicsCard would be helpful when travelling, making sure people have enough money for fuel and food.

Some people were worried that they didn't have enough time to think about income management and were concerned they needed to make a decision immediately.

We explained that Centrelink will be able to talk to people about income management if it comes to the Ngaanyatjarra Lands and that we were only collecting views. Some people said:

- they managed their money well and didn't want income management for them
- income management and the BasicsCard wouldn't help stop gambling.

A few people raised some other concerns:

- that participation in income management should be voluntary. Other people could see the benefit of compulsory income management for particularly vulnerable people
- only a percentage of family allowance payments, not basic income support payments, should be income managed
- some were worried that the government is planning on introducing a broader program like the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) to the Ngaanyatjarra Lands.

What you told us about how income management could work

Most people liked the fact that, in most cases, income management was voluntary. This means that if people manage their money well they have a choice whether or not to participate.

Some people asked whether they would be able to nominate community members for income management if they wouldn't volunteer.

People thought it was good that the most vulnerable people, who might have trouble looking after themselves or their kids, can be referred to income management by Centrelink or social workers from the Department of Child Protection.

Some people mentioned that income management could help older people, or people with mental illness or disability, who are currently harassed for money and are often left with nothing on payday. They also said it was good that Centrelink could place these people on income management.

What happens now?

We listened to all the views and they are helping us to consider whether income management could be helpful in the Ngaanyatjarra Lands communities.

We will come back soon to talk about whether income management will be introduced in the Ngaanyatjarra Lands.

Find out more

To give more feedback or ask questions, please email WAIncomeManagement@fahcsia.gov.au

