

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Social Security (Administration) (Declared relevant Northern Territory areas — Various (No. 19) Determination 2008

The *Social Security (Administration) (Declared relevant Northern Territory areas — Various (No. 19)) Determination 2008* (the Determination) is made under subsection 123TE (1) of the *Social Security (Administration) Act 1999* (the Act). The Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, as well as making this instrument in her own capacity, is also making this instrument on behalf of the Minister for Education and the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

Background

On 21 June 2007, the Australian Government announced a number of measures in response to the national emergency confronting the welfare of Aboriginal children in the Northern Territory.

This measure has two primary aims:

- a) to stem the flow of cash that is expended on substance abuse and gambling; and
- b) to ensure funds that are provided for the welfare of children are actually expended in this way.

Purpose

The purpose of the Determination is to specify that each place listed in the Schedule to the Determination is a “declared relevant Northern Territory area” for the purposes of Part 3B of the Act.

The effect of the Determination is that once an area is determined to be a “declared relevant Northern Territory area” for the purposes of Part 3B of the Act, the income management regime (as set out in Part 3B of the Act) will apply to certain individuals within that area.

The Determination commences on 2 June 2008. The Determination will still have operative effect on the day on which it is expressed to expire (i.e. 26 May 2009).

Consultation

Consultation on the Determination was undertaken with the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations to ensure a co-ordinated approach in respect of welfare payments, for which they have responsibility, which may become subject to the income management regime.

Regulatory Impact Analysis

The Determination does not require a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) or a Business Cost Calculator Figure. The Determination is not regulatory in nature, will not impact on business activity and will have no, or minimal, compliance costs or competition impact. It is not expected that any compliance costs will be incurred by business, as a result of this Determination, against the nine categories listed in the Business Compliance Cost Checklist contained in the Best Practice Regulation Handbook prepared by the Office of Best Practice Regulation.