



# Quarantining of Centrelink payments is coming to Bankstown

## What has been the experience under the Northern Territory Intervention and around the country?

Income Management is a policy which "quarantines" 50 per cent of Centrelink payments onto a BasicsCard. This card can only be used to buy "priority items" at government approved stores.

Income Management was first introduced through the federal Intervention in NT Aboriginal communities for all people on Centrelink. It has been very discriminatory and is resented by a large number of people. More targeted versions have also been introduced in Cape York and Western Australian Aboriginal communities, along with some areas of Perth.

The government promised it would conduct a proper review to see whether Income Management actually helps struggling families before expanding the system. But in the recent budget, it was announced that the BasicsCard will be introduced in Bankstown in 2012, along with four other disadvantaged areas around Australia. It will be compulsorily applied to people Centrelink judges are "vulnerable to financial crisis", along with people referred by child protection authorities.

Come along to hear about the experience of Income Management under the NT Intervention and around Australia. Learn about the concerns held by people in the welfare sector and the local community. Discuss what action can be taken to protect the rights of people on social security.

### **Details:**

Monday June 20<sup>th</sup> 1pm  
Bankstown Senior Citizens'  
Centre, 7 West Terrace,  
Bankstown

### **Speakers:**

**Paddy Gibson**, Jumbunna Indigenous House  
of Learning, UTS recently returned from Alice  
Springs

**Katie Wrigley**, Welfare Rights Centre

For more information contact: Paddy (0415800586)

organised by the Stop the Intervention Collective Sydney: [www.stoptheintervention.org](http://www.stoptheintervention.org)