

**Question on Notice
No. 127
Asked on 20 February 2007**

MRS LIZ CUNNINGHAM MP asked the Minister for Child Safety (Ms BOYLE)-

QUESTION:

With reference to the Gladstone Child Safety Office-

- (1) How many staff are employed and what are their designations?
- (2) How many cases are handled by this office?
- (3) What is the case load for each Child Safety Officer?

ANSWER:

- (1) The staffing establishment of the Gladstone Child Safety Service Centre is outlined below:

Funded Positions	No.
Manager	1
Team Leaders	3
Senior Practitioner	1
Court Coordinator	1
Business Support Officer	1
Child Safety Officers	17
Child Safety Support Officers	3
Administration Officers	3
Total	30

- (2) As at December 2006, the Gladstone Child Safety Service Centre had the following caseload breakdown:

- average incoming child protection notifications per month for the period July - December 2006 – 18;
- children under child protection orders – 170; and
- children on an intervention with parental agreement – 37.

- (3) As at 31 December 2006, the average caseload for child safety officers assigned to the Children Under Orders Team and the Intervention Team at the Gladstone Child Safety Service Centre was 22 children.

The significant resource allocation to the department arising out of the Blueprint in 2004 and subsequent budget allocations, has led to a reduction in the caseload numbers in the department's child safety service centres.

In addition to this, extra staff, such as Court Coordinators, Business Support Officers, Child Safety Support Officers, Recordkeeping Officers, Family Group Meeting Convenors and Zonal Placement Coordinators have been engaged to enable child safety officers to focus on their core casework responsibilities.

The department's new Integrated Client Management System (ICMS), which has been implemented statewide from 16 March 2007, will also be of benefit to departmental staff. This system will assist child safety officers to better manage their workloads and to have immediate access to current and complete historical information in order to make informed decisions for children and young people in the child protection system.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS ANSWER REPLACES THE PREVIOUS
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE NO. 127 TABLED ON 20
MARCH 2007.