

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1810

**asked on Thursday, 1 November 2007**

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MR HOPPER ASKED THE MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND WATER AND MINISTER ASSISTING THE PREMIER IN NORTH QUEENSLAND (MR WALLACE)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Department of Natural Resources' role in issuing valuation notices—

- (1) How many objections has the department received in response to valuation notices issued in 2007 and 2006 (total figure and regional breakdown, and each year reported separately)?
- (2) How many objections to date have been upheld throughout Queensland in 2007 (total figure and regional breakdown, and each year reported separately)?
- (3) How many objection conferences or face to face meetings have been requested in 2006 and 2007 (total figure and regional breakdown, and each year reported separately)?
- (4) How many objection conferences or face to face meetings have been granted by the department in 2006 and 2007 (total figure and regional breakdown, and each year reported separately)?

ANSWER:

As per Question on Notice 1574, the Member for Hinchinbrook asked:

“With reference to the Department of Natural Resources role in issuing valuation notices—

- (1) How many objections has the department received in response to valuation notices issued in 2007 and 2006 (total figure and regional breakdown, and each year reported separately)?
- (2) How many objections to date have been upheld throughout Queensland in 2007 (total figure and regional breakdown, and each year reported separately)?
- (3) How many objection conferences or face to face meetings have been requested in 2006 and 2007 (total figure and regional breakdown, and each year reported separately)?

(4) How many objection conferences or face to face meetings have been granted by the department in 2006 and 2007 (total figure and regional breakdown, and each year reported separately)?”

Below is my response to that Question:

“The Honourable Member should be careful if, as appears from his questions, he intends to compare valuation statistics for the years 2006 and 2007. They are not comparable.

In 2006, around 201,000 properties across Queensland were valued, not including Brisbane. In 2007, approximately 950,000 properties, including the Brisbane area, were valued. As a result, figures for 2007 will be much higher.

(1) Numbers of objections received:

**2006**

<i><b>Region</b></i>	<i><b>Figure</b></i>	<i><b>% of total</b></i>	<i><b>No. of Valuations</b></i>
North	898	2	37736
Central West	1,497	2	67926
South West	588	5	11220
South East	313	.3	84303
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,296</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>201185</b>

**2007**

<i><b>Region</b></i>	<i><b>Figure</b></i>	<i><b>% of total</b></i>	<i><b>No. of Valuations</b></i>
North	490	.4	104456
Central West	1,180	1	89845
South West	452	1.7	60924
South East	3,546	.5	692145
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,668</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>947370</b>

In this category it should be noted that total objections in 2006 were 1.64% of all valuations but this figure fell to 0.6% of all valuations in 2007, despite the much larger number of valuations done. Indeed 2007 was the best ever year for reduction in objections.

(1) Numbers of Objections upheld:

**2006**

<i><b>Region</b></i>	<i><b>Figure</b></i>
North	327
Central West	538
South West	171
South East	91

**2007**

<i><b>Region</b></i>	<i><b>Figure</b></i>
North	228
Central West	490
South West	69
South East	1,256

<b>Total</b>	<b>1,127</b>
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<b>Total</b>	<b>2,043</b>
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Please note comments made in the introduction to this answer about the different numbers of valuations done in 2006 and 2007. It should be noted that even with the much greater number of valuations done in 2007, objections upheld decreased in all regions of the State except South East over 2006 and 2007, however Brisbane was valued in 2007 and not in 2006.

(2) Numbers of objection conferences requested:

**2006**

<i><b>Region</b></i>	<i><b>Figure</b></i>
North	186
Central West	330
South West	257
South East	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>816</b>

**2007**

<i><b>Region</b></i>	<i><b>Figure</b></i>
North	90
Central West	283
South West	84
South East	1,029
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,486</b>

Please note comments made in the introduction to this answer about the different numbers of valuations done in 2006 and 2007. It should be noted that even with the much greater number of valuations done in 2007, requests for objection conferences decreased in all regions of the State except South East over 2006 and 2007.

(3) Numbers of objection conferences granted:

**2006**

<i><b>Region</b></i>	<i><b>Figure</b></i>
North	85
Central West	601
South West	109
South East	55
<b>Total</b>	<b>850</b>

**2007**

<i><b>Region</b></i>	<i><b>Figure</b></i>
North	159
Central West	209
South West	18
South East	222
<b>Total</b>	<b>608</b>

The smaller number of objection conferences granted in 2007 reflects a new policy requiring objectors to give reasons why they are objecting, to support their case. This policy came into effect in late April 2006 in readiness for the 2007 valuation process. This allows my department to grant conferences where matters raised on the objections require clarification—providing a more focused and streamlined objection process. In the past objectors did

not have to indicate their reason for objecting resulting in conferences being granted where not required.

The total number of objection conferences or face to face meetings granted by my department in 2006 exceed the total number of objection conferences or face to face meetings requested by the public, because my department may grant conferences to clarify matters raised even though the relevant landholder did not request a conference.”