

**Question on Notice
No. 707
Asked on 22 May 2007**

MR MCARDLE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM, FAIR TRADING, WINE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND WOMEN (MRS KEECH)—

With reference to the enforcement function of the Office of Fair Trading (OFT), for 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (to date) (reported separately by year)—

1. How many prosecutions did the OFT commence for offences against legislation within its portfolio responsibility?
2. In how many of those prosecutions did the OFT obtain a conviction?
3. How many of those prosecutions are still awaiting finalisation by either the Commercial and Consumer Tribunal or the courts?

ANSWER:

During 2004-05, the OFT commenced 55 prosecution proceedings, resulting in 51 convictions. During 2005-06, the OFT commenced 130 prosecution proceedings, which resulted in 97 convictions. As at 31 May 2007, the OFT had commenced 70 prosecution proceedings, resulting in 43 convictions to date.

There are 33 matters currently awaiting finalisation before the courts. The Commercial and Consumer Tribunal has no jurisdiction to hear and determine prosecutions.