

**Question on Notice
No. 744
Asked on 23 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 each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 (to date) (each reported separately)—

1. What was the total amount of funding allocated to the OFT to enable it to undertake prosecutions for offences against legislation within its portfolio responsibility (reported separately by year)?
2. What was the actual total amount of funding that was spent by the OFT in undertaking such prosecutions (reported separately by year)?

ANSWER:

There is no funding allocation to the Office of Fair Trading specifically and exclusively to enable it to undertake prosecutions for offences against fair trading legislation.

OFT prosecutions and prosecution-related activities are undertaken by my Department through a variety of Divisions and Units and reported in my Ministerial Portfolio Statement under the Fair Trading Services Output. The output is delivered by a combination of investigative, administrative and legal officers across these Divisions and Units who do not necessarily undertake work exclusively in prosecutions.

The amount of funding allocated for my Department to deliver that the Fair Trading Services Output in each of the specified years is: 2006-07 \$38.033M, 2005-06 \$35.161M, 2004-05 \$33.389M.

The amount of funding spent by my Department to deliver the Fair Trading Services Output in each of the specified years is: 2006-07 \$38.033M (estimated actual), 2005-06 \$36.909M, 2004-05 \$34.279M.