

**Question on Notice
No. 786
Asked on 24 May 2007**

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

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

1. How many staff were employed on a full-time equivalent basis in the enforcement/prosecutions branch of the OFT?
2. How many staff were employed on a part-time basis in the enforcement/prosecutions branch of the OFT?

ANSWER:

In the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) there are several areas responsible for enforcement/prosecution activities.

One of these is the Strategic Compliance and Enforcement Operations unit. The number of FTE staff in that one unit was 11 in 2005, 12 in 2006 and 11 plus 1 part-time member in 2007.

These functions are also carried out by officers in other branches and units within OFT and key officers in other units of my department.

I am advised that at the end of May 2007, there were a total of 98 FTE officers in my department who contribute to OFT enforcement/compliance/prosecutions outputs.