

Question on Notice

No. 1475

Asked on Thursday 9 October 2008

Mr HORAN asked the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister Assisting the Premier in Western Queensland (Mr Shine) -

QUESTION:

- (1) How many legal officer and prosecutor positions were unfilled as at 8 October 2008 in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP)?
- (2) When did the ODPP last advertise for legal officers or prosecutors (and what was the date of advertising)?
- (3) How many applications were received and how many people were hired from that recruitment campaign?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question and am pleased to inform him of the \$38 million operating budget allocated to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions for the 2008-09 financial year.

This funding allocation is inclusive of a \$3.5 million increase in ongoing base funding announced on 21 July 2008 and will ensure the continued delivery of highly-professional and valued prosecution services on behalf of the people of Queensland.

I am also pleased to advise the Member of a recent realignment of the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions' organisational structure to enhance organisational management and efficiency and to attract and retain high-quality staff to meet current and expected workloads.

As at 8 October 2008 there were two prosecutor and five legal officer positions that were unfilled. To put this into perspective, these vacancies represent 4.13% of the total number of legal officer and prosecutor positions within the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and just 1.8% of the total number of full time equivalents.

The last advertisement for legal positions was placed on 31 October 2008. Applications for these positions do not close until 24 November 2008.

The most recent round of advertisements for which the selection processes has now been completed were made on 5 September 2008. Two different positions were advertised, a Practice Manager in Townsville and a Crown Prosecutor in Mackay. Applications for these roles closed on 29 September and a total of nine applications (2 and 7) were received. Both roles have now been filled.