

**Question on Notice  
No. 1712  
Asked on Wednesday 12 November 2008**

**MR HOBBS** ASKED THE MINISTER FOR MAIN ROADS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MR PITT)–

**QUESTION:**

With reference to the decentralisation of the Department of Local Government, Sport and Recreation –

Will he provide (in table format separated by regional office) the (a) total number of FTE employees that will be employed, (b) number of Brisbane based FTE employees who have opted to move to the new offices, (c) actual or estimated cost to move those employees, (d) estimated yearly cost to operate each office and (e) time left on leases in Brisbane for offices that will be shifting to regional areas and the cost?

**ANSWER:**

Responses to parts (a), (b), (c) and (d) are provided in the table below, separated by regional and area office, as requested.

Region	Regional / Area Office location	Total FTE employees in each location (calculated from 30 June 2009)	Number of Brisbane FTE employees who opted to move to the location	Actual cost to transfer employee	Current annual lease cost
South East	Ipswich	18	7	Nil	\$209,100
	Beenleigh	12	5	\$3783	\$100,960
	Kedron	8	6	Nil	\$107,670
	Sippy Downs	15	3	\$12,062	\$67,200
South West	Toowoomba	23.5	2	Nil	\$120,137 *
	Roma	2	1	Nil	\$26,500
	Charleville	1			\$8,000
	Dalby	1.5			\$6,447
Central	Warwick	2			\$12,663
	Rockhampton	20	1	\$25,438	\$94,341 *
	Bundaberg	9			\$42,500 *
	Maryborough	2			\$15,225
	Hervey Bay	3	1	Nil	\$16,462
Northern	Longreach	2			No charge
	Emerald	1.5			\$20,000
	Townsville	20.5			Sport and Rec owned facility
Far North	Mount Isa	5			\$27,183
	Mackay	9	1	Nil	\$61,196 *
Far North	Cairns	38.5	2	\$5276	\$222,250 *
	Atherton	4			\$10,665

\* Not all the listed lease costs are additional lease costs. The Department has always had a number of staff located in the larger regional centres such as Toowoomba, Rockhampton, Bundaberg, Townsville, Mackay and Cairns. The key focus of regionalisation is moving local government services closer to clients and improving services to all clients and communities.

The total number of FTEs at each office is calculated from 30 June 2009 - the date the Department's regionalisation program will be finalised and all regions will be fully staffed.

A total of 67 Brisbane-based FTEs (including vacant positions for local recruitment) will be transferred to regional locations by 30 June 2009, bringing the number of regional departmental FTEs to 197.5.

In recent months, the Department has exited leases on level 9, 111 George Street and will end the Forestry House (Mary Street) lease by the end of January 2009. As a result of moving positions to the regions and consolidating Brisbane-based staff in two locations, the annual lease saving to the Department in Brisbane from 31 January 2009 will be \$448,835 per annum. This will result in Brisbane-based staff being located in Mineral House (six floors) and on one floor of 111 George Street. Further consolidation will occur within Mineral House as further positions are moved to the regions between now and 30 June 2009.