

**Question on Notice
No. 285
Asked on Tuesday, 11 March 2008.**

MR JASON O'BRIEN asked the Minister for Child Safety and Minister for Women (MRS KEECH) -

QUESTION:

With reference to the service hubs her department is opening on Thursday Island, Weipa and Cooktown -

Will she advise (a) how many staff will operate from each centre and (b) if all positions are currently filled?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question and for his ongoing support for the Department of Child Safety in the work it does in the far north of the state.

The funded establishment for each of the branches at Cooktown, Weipa and Thursday Island are seven, eight and seven full time employees (FTE) respectively.

These teams are supported by two Cairns based teams.

The Kids in Care Cairns Team provides case work for children who are removed from their communities and located in Cairns, completes all the necessary case work for these children, including coordinating referrals.

Intake Investigations and Assessment within the Cape York and Torres Strait Island CSSC is provided by a separate team, fly in fly out service based in Cairns which services all Branch offices.

There are currently four vacancies. Recruitment processes are underway to fill these vacancies.