

# **Family Responsibilities Commission**

*Report to the Family Responsibilities Board and  
The Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships*

## **Quarterly Report**

**No. 32**

**April 2016 to June 2016**



*Report prepared by the Family Responsibilities Commission under the leadership of  
Commissioner David Glasgow*

## Executive Summary

During quarter 32, 1,081 within jurisdiction agency notices were received by the Family Responsibilities Commission (the Commission), an increase of 64 from last quarter. There were 602 conferences held for the same period, representing an increase of 60 from the previous quarter. Thirteen Family Responsibility Agreements (FRAs) were entered into, 45 orders were made to attend community support services and 88 Conditional Income Management (CIM) orders were issued. When compared to last quarter, this represents an increase of 6 FRA's, an increase of 16 orders to attend community support services and an increase of 46 CIM orders.

Voluntary Income Management (VIM) agreements increased by seven from last quarter. VIM agreements are requested in order to assist with budgeting and to ensure funds remain available for purchases. The Commission considers an increase in VIM numbers to be indicative of community members resuming responsibility for their lives.

The Commission case-managed 159 clients during the quarter, making 56 referrals relating to 49 clients. Further activity during the quarter consisted of 17 Applications to Amend or End Agreements or Orders (a decrease of 3 from the previous quarter). No Show Cause conferences were held during quarter 32 (the same as the last quarter).

The Local Commissioners attended their annual development week in Cairns this quarter during which they met with senior staff from several organisations who provide social and government services to the welfare reform communities including Cape York Partnership (Empowered Communities), the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, the Queensland Police Service, Department of Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DATSIP) and Griffith Youth Forensic Services. Local Commissioners were also addressed by Dr Ernest Hunter, a respected Australian medical practitioner who trained in adult, child and cross-cultural psychiatry in the United States before returning to work for many years in remote northern Australia. Dr Hunter discussed issues which have, in the past few decades, impacted significantly on Indigenous communities. Training was provided in resilience and self-care, with a focus on managing family pressures and requests for money. Commissioner Glasgow has, since the first sittings in 2016, provided training and guidance after scheduled conference sessions to the Local Commissioners on the domestic violence trigger in the four communities which currently have jurisdiction. During the Local Commissioner Development Week White Ribbon Australia and the Cairns Regional Domestic Violence Service provided domestic violence training for the Local Commissioners to assist them in understanding common behaviours of perpetrators, and their effect on victims and communities as a whole. Participation in the consultations and workshops allowed the participants to tackle common issues, review strategies and source solutions.

On a positive note, school attendances in Hope Vale, Coen and Mossman Gorge continues to be equal to, or better than, most State schools in Indigenous communities in this State. Attendances in both Doomadgee and Aurukun continue to be particularly disappointing. In each community significant but often differing challenges and obstacles remain to bring attendance rates to acceptable levels. Commissioners continue to be vigilant and committed to their task of improving the lives of the children and families of their communities.

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### **Abbreviations**

CIM	Conditional Income Management
DATSIP	Department of Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
DET	Department of Education and Training
FRA	Family Responsibilities Agreement
FRC	Family Responsibilities Commission
VIM	Voluntary Income Management

#### **Also:**

Family Responsibilities Commission (the Commission)  
*Family Responsibilities Commission Act 2008* (the Act)  
Family Responsibilities Commission Registry (the Registry)  
Family Responsibilities Board (the Board)

# Family Responsibilities Commission Welfare Reforms

Report to 30 June 2016.

## 1. Activities and Trends

### Notices

In quarter 32 the Commission received **1,688 agency notices**<sup>1</sup>. Some individuals may have been the subject of more than one agency notice. Of that figure 1081 notices (64 percent) were within the Commission's jurisdiction and 607 notices (36 percent) were outside the Commission's jurisdiction.

Within jurisdiction notices comprised of:

9	District Court notices
24	Childrens Court notices
252	Magistrates Court notices
10	Domestic Violence Breach notices
49	Domestic Violence Order notices
686	School Attendance notices
4	School Enrolment notices
24	Child Safety and Welfare notices
23	Housing Tenancy notices

Of the 607 notices not within the Commission's jurisdiction, there were 1 Supreme Court notice, 25 District Court notices, 8 Childrens Court notices, 324 Magistrates Court notices, 16 Domestic Violence Breach notices, 36 Domestic Violence Order notices, 190 School Attendance notices, 0 School Enrolment notices, 3 Child Safety and Welfare notices and 4 Housing Tenancy notices.

Details of notices within jurisdiction for each community are set out below:

- **Aurukun's 498** notices constitute **46.1 percent** of the total notices in jurisdiction across the welfare reform communities:

7	District Court notices
22	Childrens Court notices
194	Magistrates Court notices
9	Domestic Violence Breach notices
25	Domestic Violence Order notices
240	School Attendance notices
1	School Enrolment notice
0	Child Safety and Welfare notices
0	Housing Tenancy notices

Fifteen District Court notices, 130 Magistrates Court notices, 8 Domestic Violence Breach notices, 4 Domestic Violence Order notices and 24 School Attendance notices were processed as not within jurisdiction.

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<sup>1</sup> Counting rules are that an agency notice is counted on the basis of number of 'clients' on the notice. For example a child safety and welfare notice relating to two parents is counted as two notices.

- **Coen's 54** notices constitute **5.0 percent** of the total notices in jurisdiction:

1	District Court notice
0	Childrens Court notices
11	Magistrates Court notices
1	Domestic Violence Breach notice
5	Domestic Violence Order notices
28	School Attendance notices
1	School Enrolment notice
2	Child Safety and Welfare notices
5	Housing Tenancy notices

One Supreme Court notice, 1 District Court notice, 3 Magistrates Court notices, 1 Domestic Violence Order notice, 5 School Attendance notices and 1 Housing Tenancy notice were processed as not within jurisdiction.

- **Doomadgee's 294** notices constitute **27.2 percent** of the total notices in jurisdiction:

287	School Attendance notices
0	School Enrolment notices
7	Child Safety and Welfare notices

One hundred and forty-seven School Attendance notices and 1 Child Safety and Welfare notice were processed as not within jurisdiction.

- **Hope Vale's 207** notices constitute **19.1 percent** of the total notices in jurisdiction:

1	District Court notice
2	Childrens Court notices
41	Magistrates Court notices
0	Domestic Violence Breach notices
14	Domestic Violence Order notices
123	School Attendance notices
2	School Enrolment notices
12	Child Safety and Welfare notices
12	Housing Tenancy notices

Eight District Court notices, 8 Childrens Court notices, 95 Magistrates Court notices, 1 Domestic Violence Breach notice, 14 Domestic Violence Order notices, 14 School Attendance notices and 3 Housing Tenancy notices were processed as not within jurisdiction.

- **Mossman Gorge's 28** notices constitute **2.6 percent** of the total notices in jurisdiction:

0	District Court notices
0	Childrens Court notices
6	Magistrates Court notices
0	Domestic Violence Breach notices
5	Domestic Violence Order notices
8	School Attendance notices
0	School Enrolment notices

- 3 Child Safety and Welfare notices
- 6 Housing Tenancy notices

One District Court notice, 96 Magistrates Court notices, 7 Domestic Violence Breach notices, 17 Domestic Violence Order notices and 2 Child Safety and Welfare notices were processed as not within jurisdiction.

On 4 September 2015 during quarter 29, the Commission received its first Childrens Court notices. The Commission's CRM database, however, was undergoing an upgrade from 27 July 2015 to 22 January 2016 inclusive whereby no enhancements could be made to the database. During this time the Commission was not in a position to create a migration tool to upload the Children's Court notices automatically into the database, with only two Childrens Court notices in jurisdiction entered manually for Hope Vale for quarter 29 and three Childrens Court notices in jurisdiction entered manually for Aurukun in quarter 30. Throughout quarter 32 the Commission worked with the Department of Justice and Attorney-General, Youth Justice to finalise a file format for upload and received updated files for 2015-16 in May 2016, in-time for the finalisation of quarter 31. As a consequence the Commission has retrospectively updated the number of Childrens Court notices for quarter 29 and 30 and has shown the republished data and graphs in this quarterly report.

Since its commencement the Commission has received 25,462 agency notices within its jurisdiction. Total notices increased from 1,422 in quarter 31 to 1,688 in quarter 32. Of those notices in jurisdiction, District Court, Domestic Violence Order, School Attendance and Housing Tenancy notices increased, whilst Childrens Court, Magistrates Court, Domestic Violence Breach and Child Safety and Welfare notices decreased. School Enrolment notices remained unchanged.

District Court notices increased this quarter to 9 from 4 received in the previous quarter. Aurukun, Coen and Hope Vale increased by 3, 1 and 1 notices respectively, with Mossman Gorge remaining unchanged with zero notices received for the quarter. The Commission does not receive District Court notices for Doomadgee.

Childrens Court notices decreased from 29 in quarter 31 to 24 in quarter 32. Aurukun decreased by 6 notices, Hope Vale increased by 1 notice and Mossman Gorge remained unchanged with 0 notices received. The Commission is yet to receive any Childrens Court notices for Coen. The Commission does not receive Childrens Court notices for Doomadgee.

Magistrates Court notices decreased this quarter to 252 from 322 received in the previous quarter. Four out of the five communities experienced a decrease in notices this quarter. Aurukun, Coen, Hope Vale and Mossman Gorge decreased by 14, 18, 24 and 14 notices respectively. The Commission does not receive Magistrates Court notices for Doomadgee.

Domestic Violence Breach notices decreased from 22 in quarter 31 to 10 in quarter 32. Coen, Hope Vale and Mossman Gorge decreased by 5 notices, 8 notices and 1 notice respectively, whilst Aurukun increased by 2 notices. The Commission does not receive Domestic Violence Breach notices for Doomadgee.

Domestic Violence Order notices increased from 30 in quarter 31 to 49 in quarter 32. Aurukun, Coen and Hope Vale increased by 12 notices, 1 notice and 7 notices respectively, whilst Mossman Gorge decreased by 1 notice. The Commission does not receive Domestic Violence Order notices for Doomadgee.

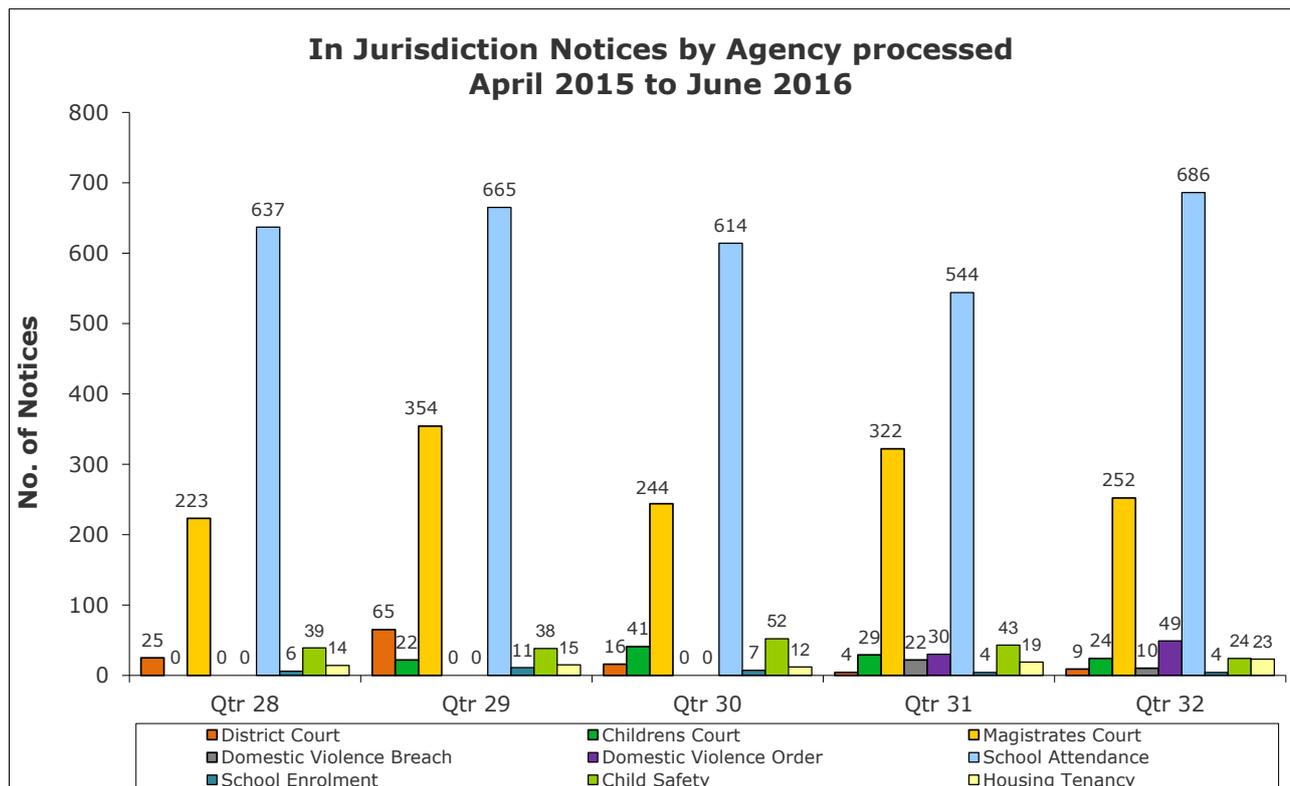
School Attendance notices increased from 544 in quarter 31 to 686 in quarter 32. Four out of the five communities experienced an increase in notices this quarter. Aurukun, Coen, Doomadgee and Hope Vale increased by 29 notices, 19 notices, 80 notices and 17 notices respectively. Mossman Gorge decreased by 3 notices for the quarter.

School Enrolment notices remained unchanged with 4 notices received for the quarter. Aurukun increased by 1 notice and Hope Vale decreased by 1 notice. Coen and Mossman Gorge both remained unchanged with 1 notice received for Coen and zero school enrolment notices received for Mossman Gorge for the quarter.

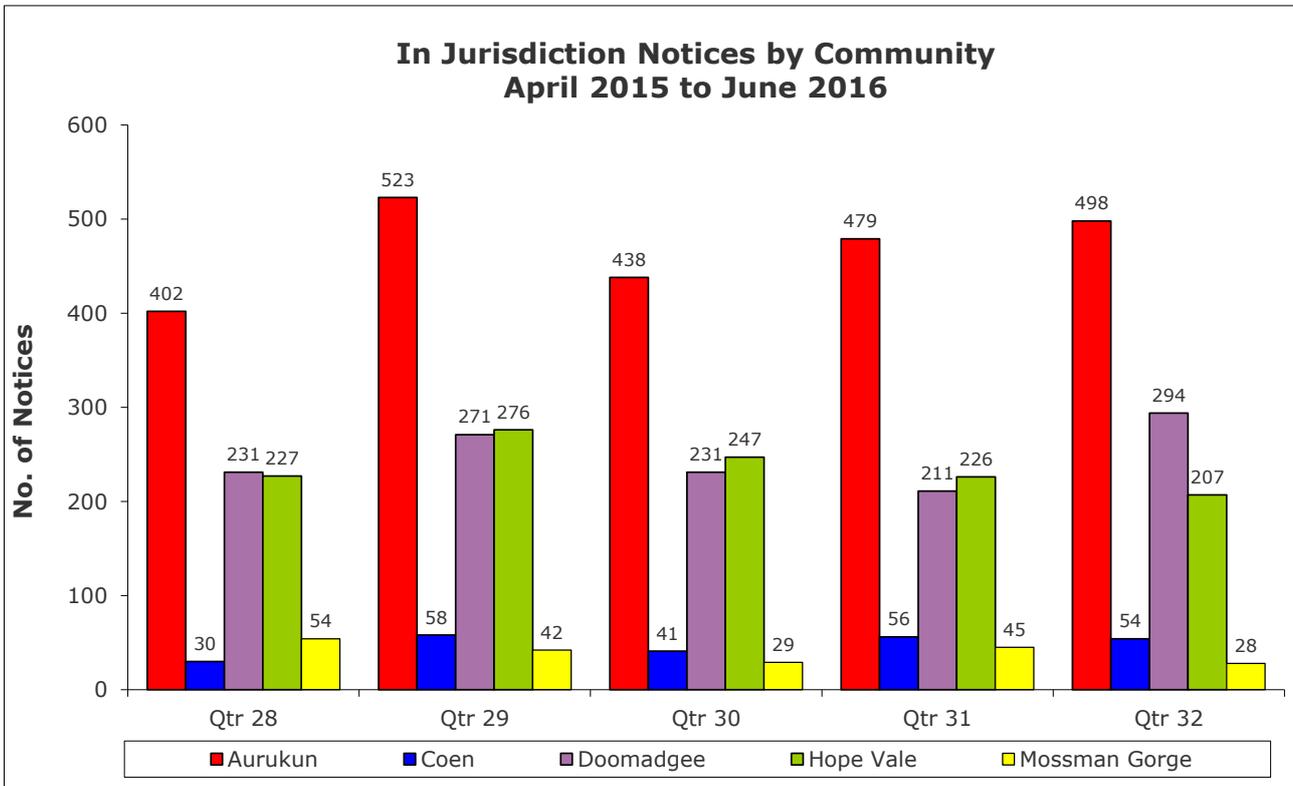
Child Safety and Welfare notices decreased from 43 in quarter 31 to 24 in quarter 32. Aurukun, Coen and Hope Vale decreased by 5 notices, 3 notices and 14 notices respectively. Doomadgee increased by 3 notices and Mossman Gorge remained unchanged with 3 notices received for the quarter.

Housing Tenancy notices increased to 23 from 19 received in the previous quarter. Coen increased by 3 notices, Hope Vale and Mossman Gorge increased by 2 notices each, whilst Aurukun decreased by 3 notices. The Commission does not receive Housing Tenancy notices for Doomadgee.

The Commission receives school attendance data from the Department of Education and Training (DET). This data is published on the Commission’s web page at <http://www.frcq.org.au> when available.

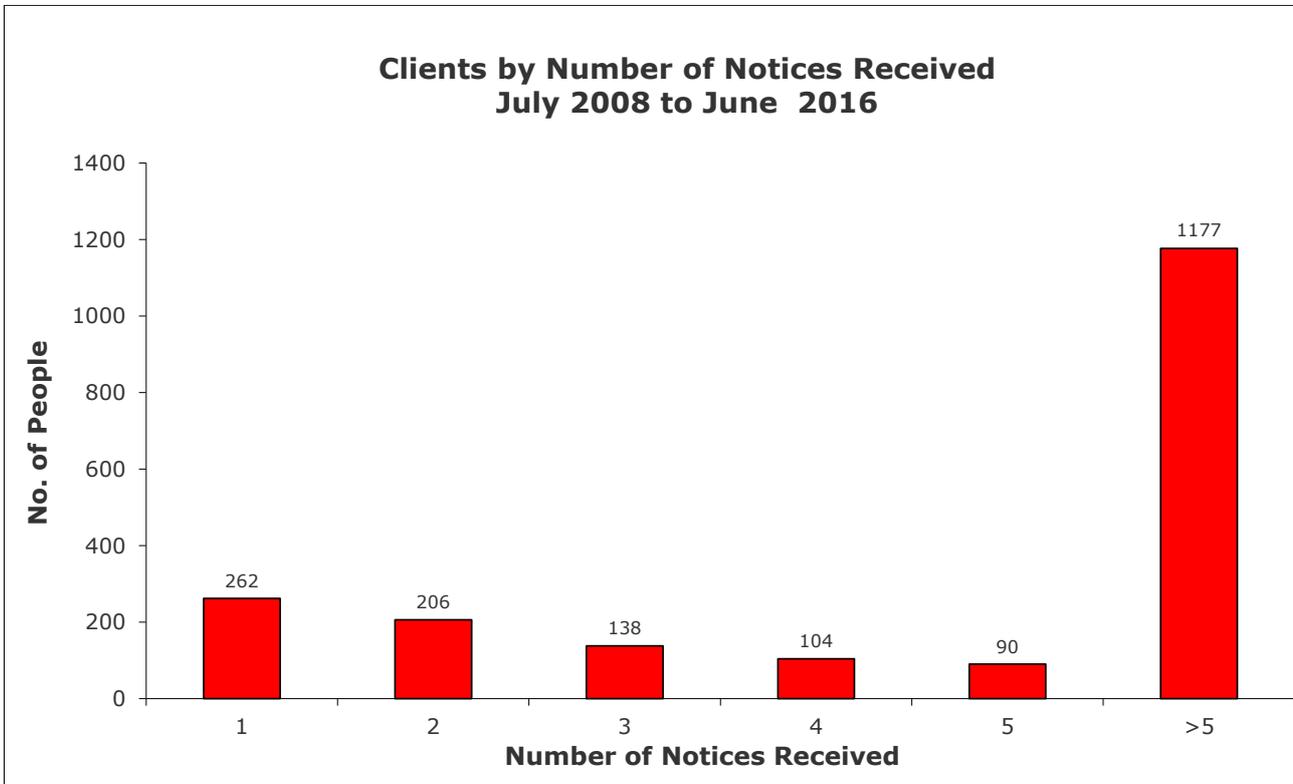


Graph 1: In jurisdiction notices by type and quarter 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2016.



**Graph 2:** In jurisdiction notices by community and quarter 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2016.

Since commencement in July 2008, 86.7 percent of clients have received more than one notice with 59.5 percent of clients receiving more than five notices. Frequently this illustrates multiple child school absences for the one family or multiple Magistrates Court notices relating to one incident. Conversely, 13.3 percent of clients have received only one notice.



**Graph 3:** FRC clients by number of notices 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2016.

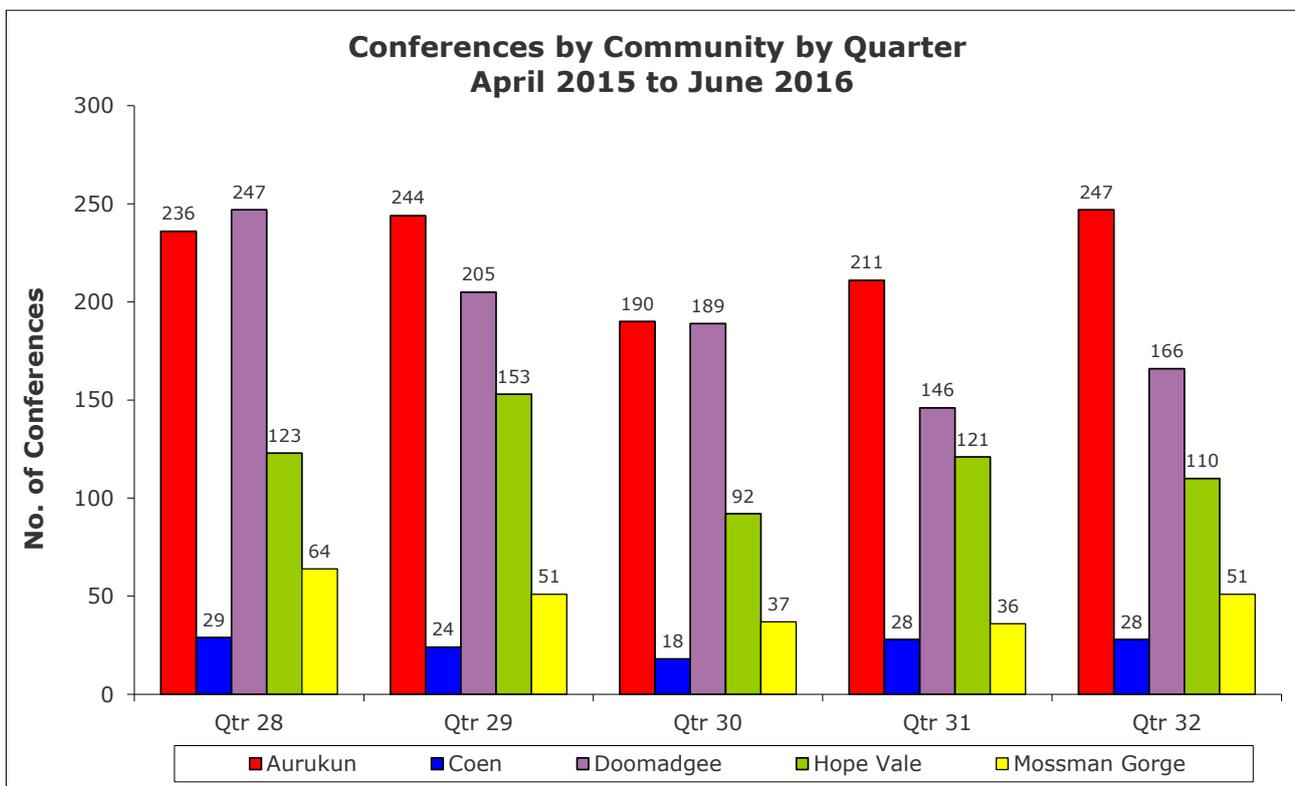
**(Note:** Counting rules stipulate that where multiple charges are received each charge is counted as an individual notice or each child’s absence is counted as one notice – i.e. if three children from the one family were absent, that was counted as three notices).

## Conferences

Six hundred and two conferences<sup>2</sup> were held across the five communities in quarter 32 resulting in 13 FRA's being entered into, 45 orders made to attend community support services and 88 CIM orders. Other outcomes as a result of conferencing during the quarter were decisions for no further action, rescheduling and scheduling to return for review with compliance. Sixty new clients were added to the Commission's database during the quarter. Details of conferencing activity in each community for quarter 32 are as follows:

- 247 conferences were held in Aurukun
- 28 conferences were held in Coen
- 166 conferences were held in Doomadgee
- 110 conferences were held in Hope Vale
- 51 conferences were held in Mossman Gorge.

Conferences increased from 542 in quarter 31 to 602 in quarter 32.

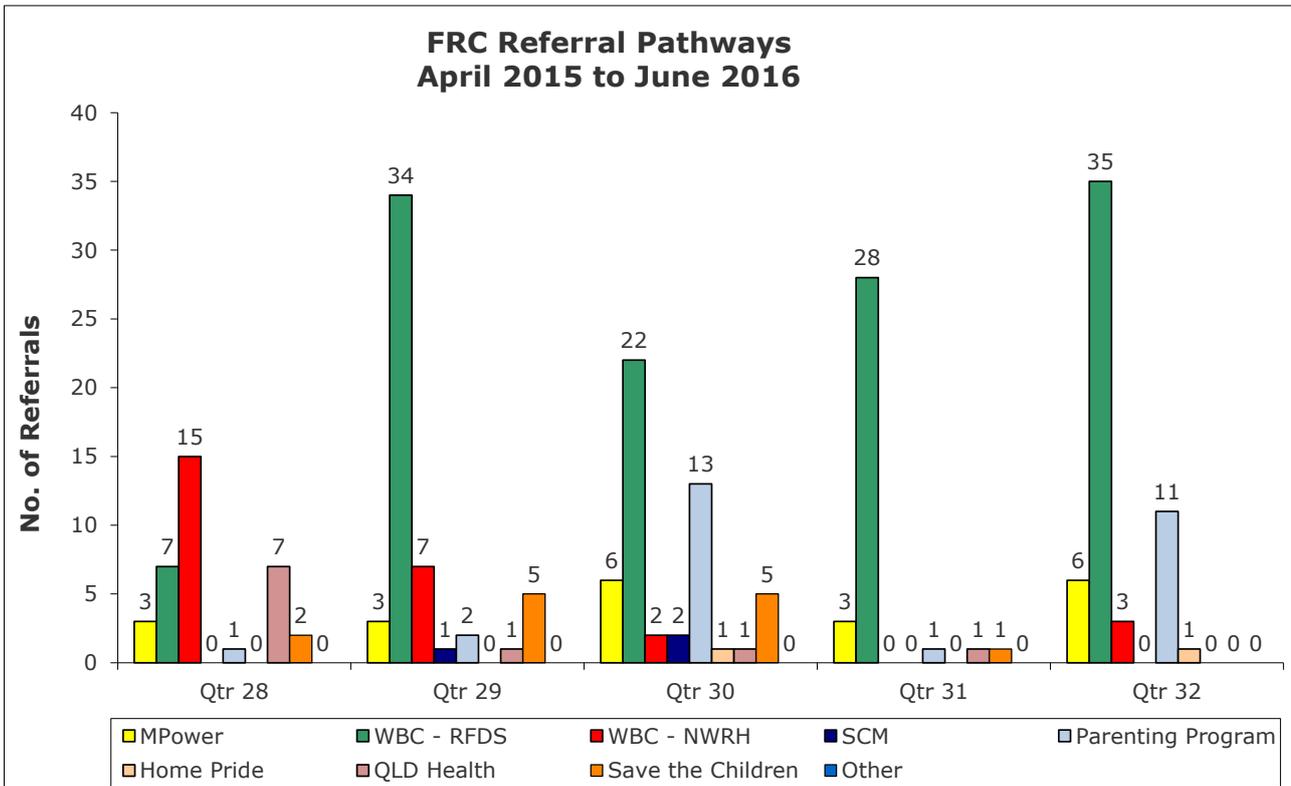


**Graph 4:** Conferences by community and quarter 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2016.

## Referrals

The number of referrals to service providers increased from 34 in quarter 31 to 56 in quarter 32, relating to 49 clients. Since commencement the Commission has referred 917 clients to service providers resulting in approximately 45.9 percent of clients on 12 month service referral plans. Referrals in the communities during the quarter were as follows: Aurukun increased by 5; Coen increased by 7; Doomadgee increased by 2; Hope Vale increased by 10 and Mossman Gorge decreased by 2.

<sup>2</sup> The number of conferences held relates to the number of conferences listed, which includes where a client was served with a Notice to Attend Conference and subsequently failed to attend.



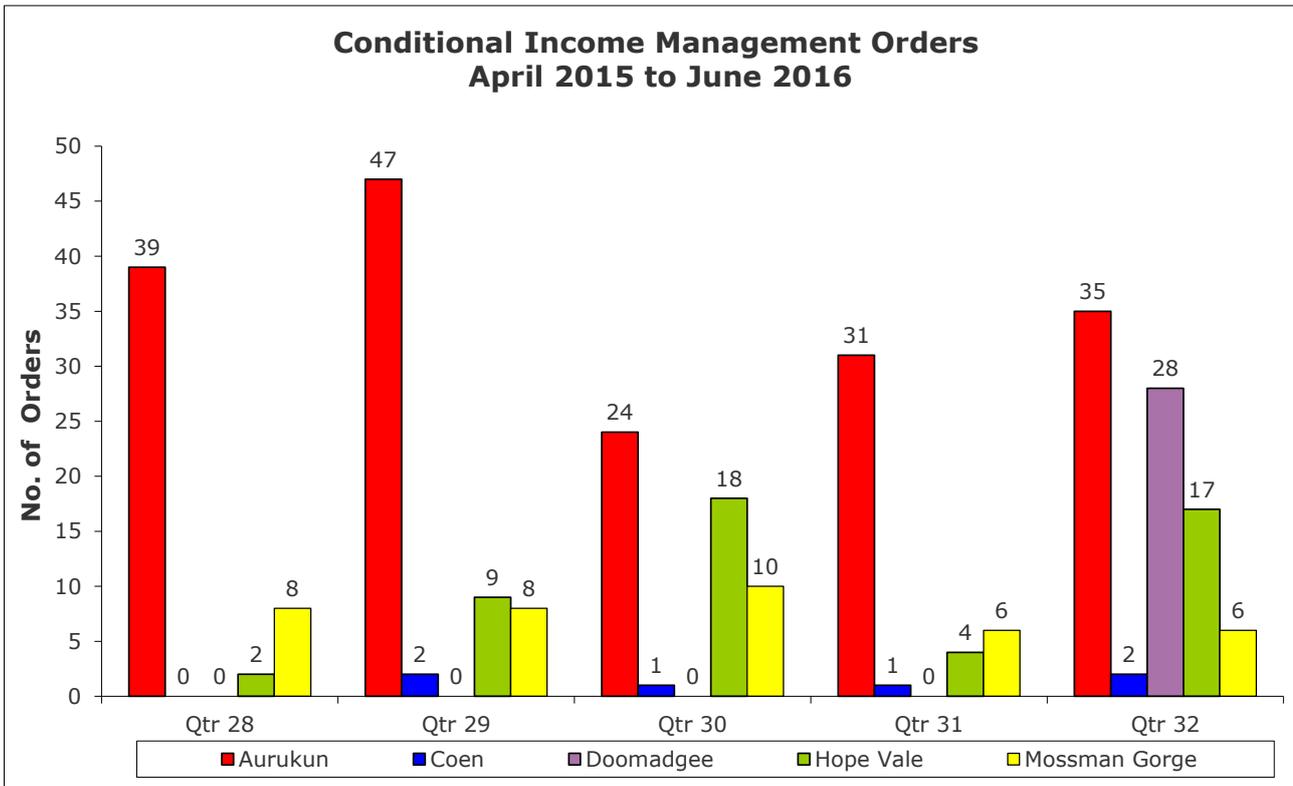
**Graph 5:** Referral pathways by referral type and quarter 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2016.

### Conditional Income Management

Eighty-eight CIM orders were made in quarter 32, an increase of 46 from quarter 31. Since the commencement of the Commission 1,857 CIM orders inclusive of original orders, extensions and amendments have been made relating to 745 clients. The Commission commenced issuing the BasicsCard in Doomadgee for the first time this quarter with 28 CIM orders issued. Further activity during the quarter is as follows: Aurukun, Coen and Hope Vale increased by 4, 1 and 13 CIM orders respectively, whilst Mossman Gorge remained unchanged with 6 CIM orders.

As at 30 June 2016, 37.3 percent of the Commission’s clients have been subject to a CIM order over the past eight years. As at 30 June 2016 there were 166 clients subject to a CIM order which equates to 8.3 percent of clients on a CIM order at a point in time. Commissioners continue to negotiate with clients to achieve desirable outcomes or to demonstrate motivation and commitment to make appropriate life choices. Demonstrated positive steps toward taking responsibility provide the Commissioners with sufficient reason to consider revoking CIM orders when requested by the client.

The Commission processed 7 VIM agreements this quarter and since the commencement of the Commission in 2008, 106 clients have requested a VIM agreement. Those clients that request a VIM agreement use income management as a savings and budget tool, often for a specified period and to deter family members from accessing their income.



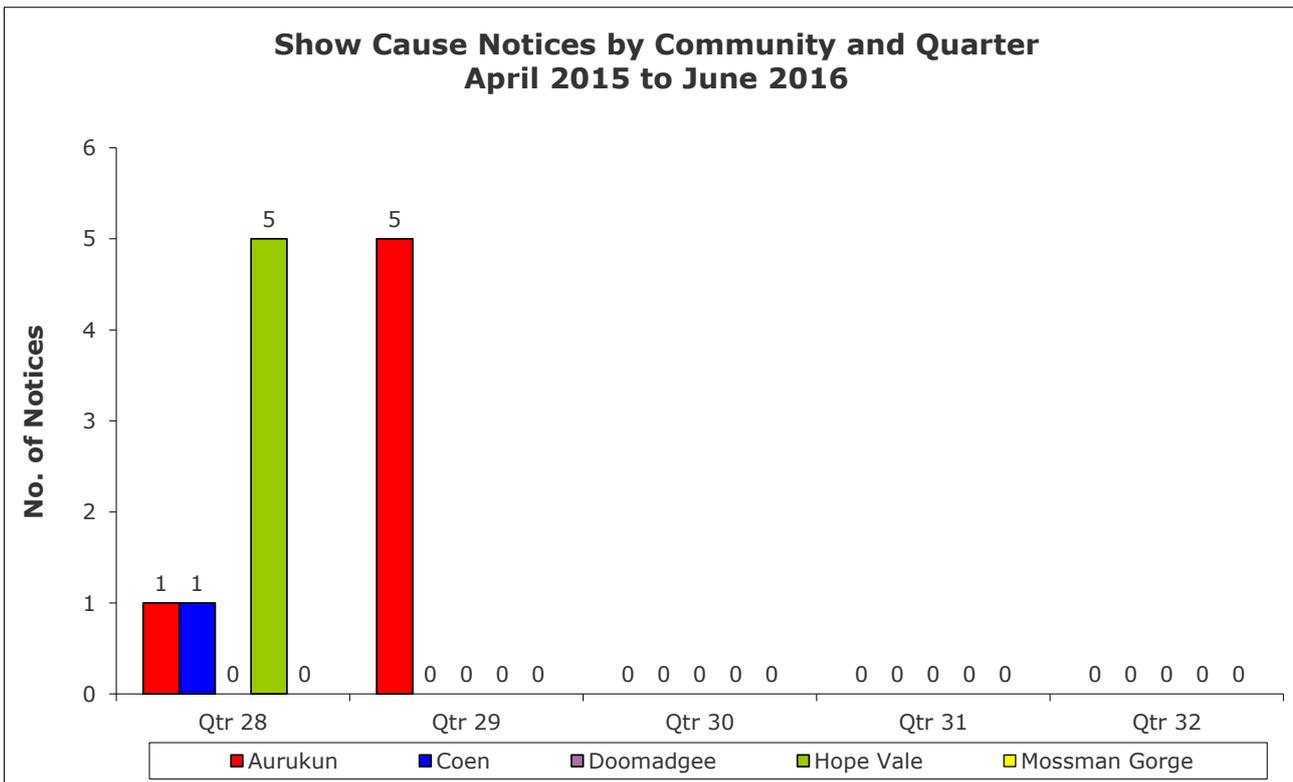
**Graph 6:** Conditional Income Management orders by community and quarter 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2016.

### Case Management

As at 30 June 2016, 159 clients were being case-managed, an increase from 139 in quarter 31. Aurukun, Coen and Hope Vale increased by 18, 5 and 7 respectively, Doomadgee and Mossman Gorge decreased by 9 and 1 respectively.

### Show Cause Notices

During quarter 32, and similar to quarter 31, no Show Cause hearings were held.



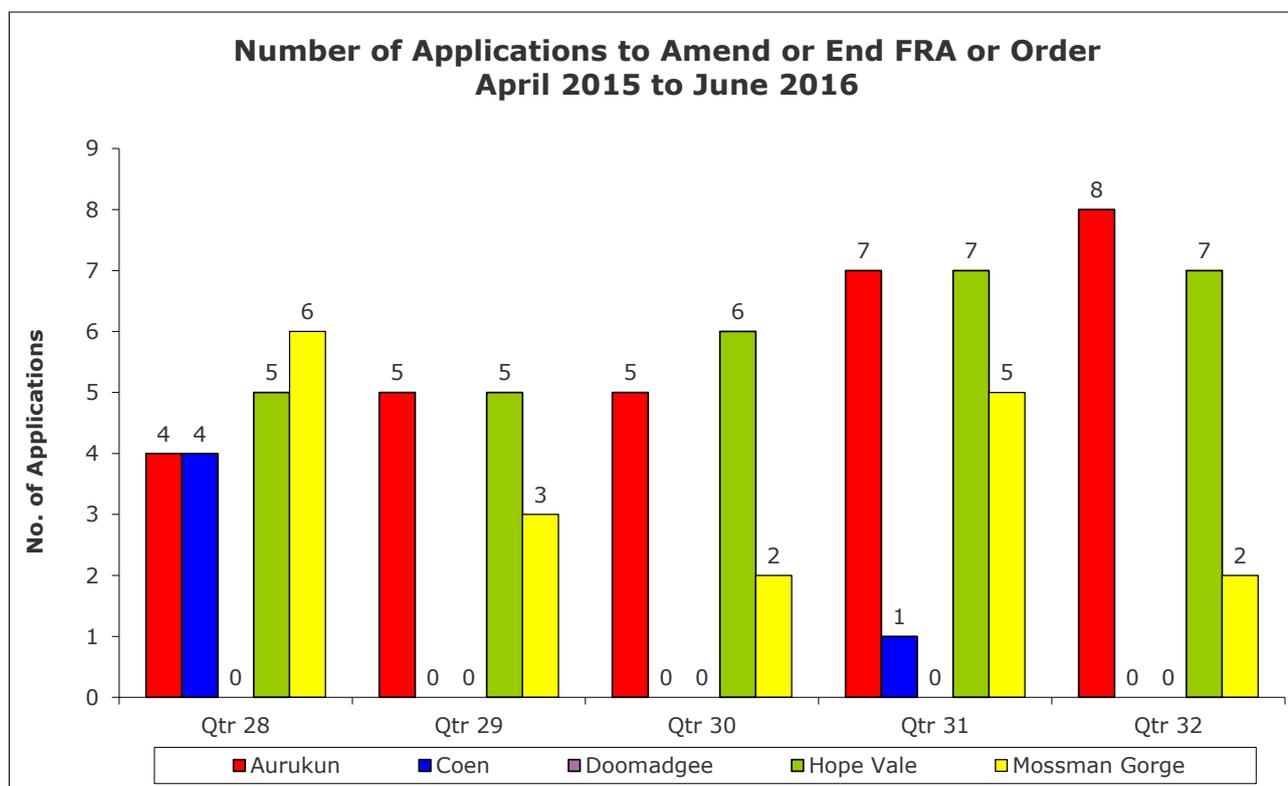
**Graph 7:** Show Cause Notices by community and quarter 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2016.

### Applications to Amend or End Agreements or Orders

Seventeen Applications to Amend or End a Family Responsibilities Agreement or Order were received in quarter 32, a decrease of 3 from quarter 31. Outcomes of the 17 applications received are as follows:

- 2 Applications granted and Income Management agreements and orders revoked
- 8 Applications dismissed
- 1 Application rescheduled for next quarter
- 2 CIM orders percentage increased from 75 to 90 percent for the remaining period of the existing order
- 4 Applications received at the end of the quarter, decision pending

The Commission continues to encourage clients to participate in the Amend or End process. Commissioners report increasing client confidence to question decisions and the reasons behind decisions, both for decisions delivered by the Commission and decisions delivered by external agencies and bodies.



**Graph 8:** Applications to Amend or End FRA or Order by community and quarter 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2016.

## 2. Future Direction and Challenges

Following authorisation from the Australian Government in March 2016, the Doomadgee Commissioners commenced using Income Management as a conferencing tool in April 2016 – Term 2 of the school year. By June 30, 28 members of the community were income managed. These community members have a total of 95 children in their care, of which 56 are identified in our CRM system as school aged. Notwithstanding these Decisions, and the continuing dedicated efforts of the Local Commissioners led in conference by Deputy Commissioner Curtin, Term 2 attendance recorded a decline to 49.6 percent from the excellent result of 67.8 percent in Term 1. The dramatic decline occurred subsequent to the election of Mayor Walden who has questioned the need for the State to educate the children of his community and advocates against compulsory school attendance. Commissioners, in consultation with local community members, are developing a planned approach to improving attendance using all measures at their disposal.

The Doomadgee Local Commissioners capability and confidence has increased to such an extent that they have expressed a desire to incorporate additional conferencing triggers dealing with domestic violence and Youth Justice matters. The inclusion of these additional triggers is viewed as an opportunity for early intervention in breaking the cycle of domestic violence. A request for these additional triggers was made at the meeting of the Commission's Board on 19 May 2016 by the Commissioner, which request remains unanswered to date.

The Commission, whilst continuing to liaise with the Department of Justice and Attorney-General's Youth Justice in regard to the timely receipt of Childrens Court notices, was advised that effective from 1 July 2016 the *Youth Justice Act 1992* (YJ Act) was amended by the *Youth Justice and Other Legislation Act (No.1) 2016* and *Youth Justice and Other Legislation Act (No.2) 2016*. One of the key policy changes to be effected by these amendments was to prohibit the publication of identifying information about all children dealt with under the YJ Act. The Youth Justice Practice team have contacted the Commission and confirmed that the effect of the amendments is that notices are unable to be provided to the Commission, as publication of identifying information is prohibited under s301 of the YJ Act. This has raised immediate operational implications for the Commission. As an example, it has been noted that the Commission will not receive notices in relation to the young people charged with offences relating to the recent assaults and car-jacking in Aurukun, as they have not yet appeared before the Childrens Court. The Commission will liaise with DATSIP's legal policy officers to assist with the best legislative construction to overcome this issue.

The Commission has reviewed trends in the numbers of Child Safety and Welfare notices received this financial year and can report that there has been a significant reduction in notifications received. All welfare reform communities, with the exception of Mossman Gorge, have experienced a reduction in notices. Of particular note are the large reduction in notices for Aurukun and Hope Vale of 75 and 47 percent respectively. The Commission has been advised by the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services (DCCSDS) that they attribute the decline primarily to a change in Queensland Police Service (QPS) policy for reporting child concern matters to DCCSDS. QPS have advised that the reporting of child harm was changed in direct response to the Carmody review and in line with the submissions forwarded by DCCSDS to that review. The reduced reporting in Aurukun and Hope Vale has been identified by QPS and they advise that strategies are being put in place to deal with it.

As reported in last year's Annual Report, the community-based intake service known as Family and Child Connect (FaCC) is currently being rolled out in Queensland. FaCC is intended to be an additional pathway for referring concerns about children and their families. The service is designed to support vulnerable families by assessing their needs and referring them to the most appropriate

support services. FaCC will assess whether more serious matters should be referred on to DCCSDS for investigation and action. The FRC Act states that Child Safety and Welfare notices are to be provided to the Commission from the child protection chief executive. This stipulation poses a legislative barrier to receiving notices from FaCC, a non-government organisation, in regard to less serious child and family matters. As the FRC Act states in s5, "The FRC Act is to be administered under the principle that the wellbeing and best interests of a child are paramount", and s5(2)(a)(i), "...the Commission should deal with the matters to which the notice relates in a way that facilitates early intervention...". The Commission has raised concerns with both DATSIP and DCCSDS regarding how the FRC will receive notices and continue to assist with early intervention strategies. Although FaCC is yet to be established in the Cape or Gulf communities, Cairns has established a FaCC service and Mossman Gorge falls within that FaCC catchment area. The Commission will continue to liaise with both DATSIP and DCCSDS to source a solution to ensure the Commission is able to continue to support families with early intervention strategies.

The community of Aurukun has experienced a tumultuous 12 months. The importation of alcohol has resulted in violent and drunken behaviour, fighting and damage to property. Many nights of uncontrolled loud music have resulted in domestic disturbances and poor school attendance. The community disturbances in November 2015, reported as riots, resulted in the looting of the store, damage to more than 30 homes making them uninhabitable, extensive property and vehicle damage and culminated in the violent death of a community member. Police reinforcements were brought in over the period to stabilise the community at considerable cost to the State Government. Youth violence and dysfunction continued to escalate and in May 2016 resulted in an attack on the CYAAA School Principal who had come to the aid of several teachers in the community. The Principal was assaulted and his car was stolen and damaged. Teaching staff were evacuated from the community due to safety concerns and the school temporarily closed. Two weeks later, shortly after some of the evacuated teaching staff had returned to the community, the Principal was again the victim of a carjacking by armed youths, several of whom were involved in the first incident and released on bail. Extra police were again flown into the community over this period and the second carjacking resulted in the closure of the school until 11 July 2016 (term 3).

The youths involved in the above incidents do not attend school and are unemployed. The Aurukun Mayor urged community members to take control of their youth, citing that the problem was not only a discipline issue but an issue of neglect, and the Queensland Government commenced a period of consultation and reflection to determine the root cause of the unrest. Security assessments and a DET review of the Aurukun CYAAA campus and its Direct Instruction method of teaching followed.

The Aurukun community was placed under further scrutiny this year with the release of a Griffith University report commissioned in 2011 by the Department of Premier and Cabinet. The report is an examination of youth sexual violence and abuse in West Cairns and Aurukun. It was received by the Queensland Government in September 2013, however, was not publically released until this year due to a number of factors, some of which were concerns over confidentiality of sources and the resultant impact on continuing work being undertaken in the community. The results of the examination report in detail the scale of abuse and also the passive acceptance of, or resignation to, the problem. As a result, the Queensland Government has set up a steering committee to analyse the findings and take positive action on prevention.

The Commission considers that determining the root cause of, and addressing the dysfunction in Aurukun is a complex issue involving more than the delivery of its schooling. In collaboration with community leaders and local organisations, the Aurukun Shire Council, Australian and Queensland Government agencies and service providers, the Queensland Government proposed a four point plan on 14 June to build community safety, ensure access to education, strengthen the community and

harness jobs and economic opportunities. A Senior Government Coordinator, Brendon McMahon, was appointed on 30 May to ensure effective coordination of efforts across Government agencies and other organisations. This appointment was universally welcomed by the community. Prior to this appointment the Aurukun service delivery system, Government and non-Government, lacked coordination and leadership. The Commission identifies the need for regular meetings of community leaders, service providers and representatives of each clan to work to establish, implement and enforce a realistic and workable community safety plan, community rules of acceptable public behaviour, conduct and values, and programs for community education on health and safety matters.

These objectives will only be achieved, in the Commission's view, after wide community consultation and agreement by the majority of Aurukun's people (including those directly involved in the recent disturbances) and open and frank assessment of policing, schooling, housing provision and maintenance, child safety and the delivery of practical programs targeting offending and anti-social behaviour. Required programs include substance abuse prevention and treatment, anger management, sex offender programs, cognitive skills programs, domestic violence counselling services and programs to deal with gambling addiction. The complex and chronic conditions evident in many of the Commission's clients are most effectively dealt with through a holistic approach and assertive engagement. It is therefore vital that service providers do not operate in isolation.

### **3. Financial Operations**

#### **Governance**

Part 12 of the Act provides for the establishment of the Family Responsibilities Board (the Board).

The Board has a mandate to give advice and make recommendations to the Minister about the operation of the Commission and similarly to give advice and make recommendations to the Commissioner about the performance of the Commission's functions.

The Board must meet at least every six months. The meeting may be held by using any technology available which will allow for efficient and effective communication, however, the Board members must meet in person at least once a year. A quorum for the Board is comprised of two members. The Board's membership consists of:

- Ms Clare O'Connor            Director-General, Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
- Mr Noel Pearson            Founder, Cape York Partnership as the Executive Chairman, representing Cape York Institute.
- Ms Carolyn Edwards        First Assistant Secretary, Indigenous Affairs, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

#### **Operational**

In meeting obligations under Part 3 of the Act, the Family Responsibilities Commission Registry (the Registry) commenced operations on 1 July 2008 with a central Registry office established in Cairns and local Registry offices operating in each of the five welfare reform communities.

The Registry, managed by the Registrar, provides corporate and operational support to the Commissioner, the Local Commissioners and the Local Coordinators.

#### **Financial**

Income:

- Income accrued by the Commission for the period 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016 totalled \$1,039,807. This income consisted of:
  - \$350,000 Queensland Government funding
  - \$231,500 Queensland Government funding for Doomadgee 2015/16
  - \$450,000 Australian Government funding
  - \$4,189 interest received
  - \$4,118 received in sundry income.

The balance of available funds in the bank as at 30 June 2016 is \$1,274,474.

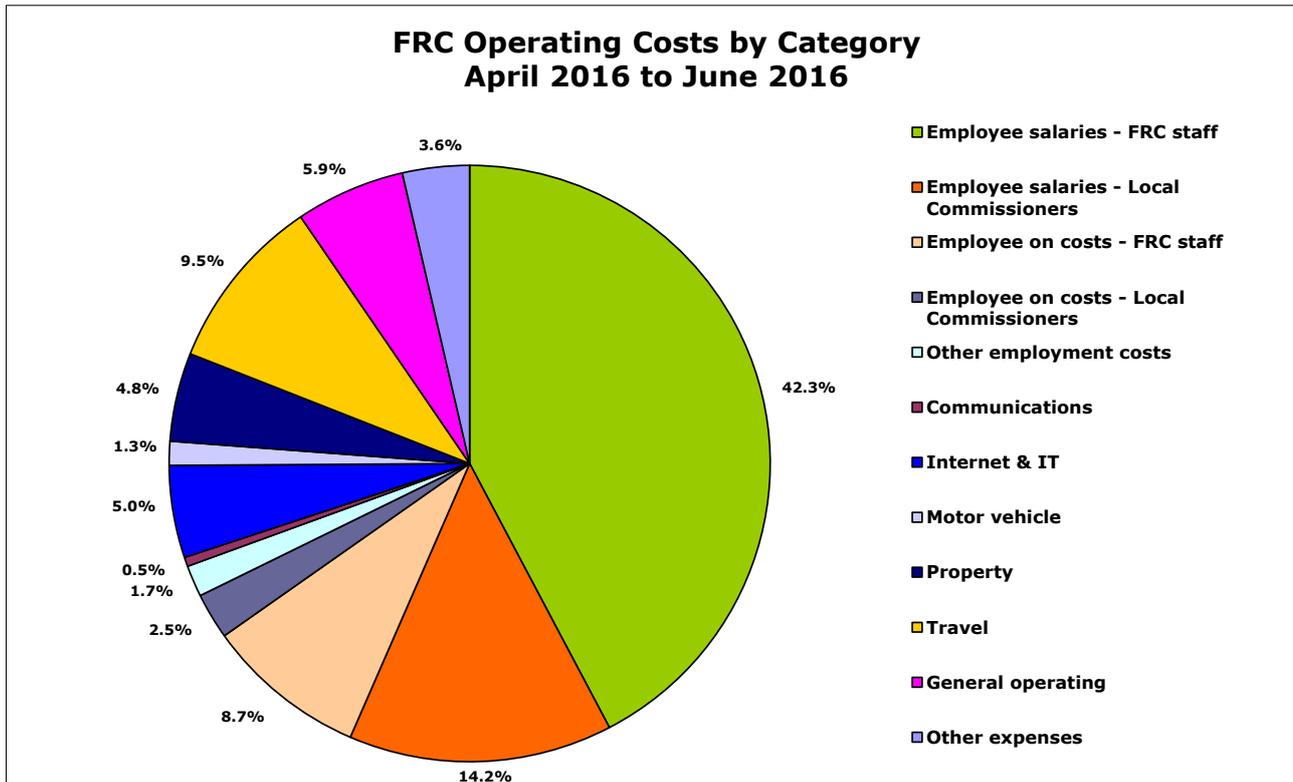
Expenditure:

- Expenditure for the period 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016 was \$1,097,987. This total represents 26 percent of the projected annual expenditure of \$4,216,985.

1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016	Expenditure Qtr 32	1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016	Expenditure Qtr 32
Employee salaries – FRC staff	\$464,840	Internet & IT	\$55,181
Employee salaries – Local Commissioners	\$155,975	Motor vehicle	\$14,555
Employee on costs – FRC staff	\$95,393	Property	\$52,919
Employee on costs – Local Commissioners	\$26,912	Travel	\$104,559
Other employment costs	\$19,055	General operating	\$64,448
Communications	\$4,888	Other expenses	\$39,262
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,097,987</b>

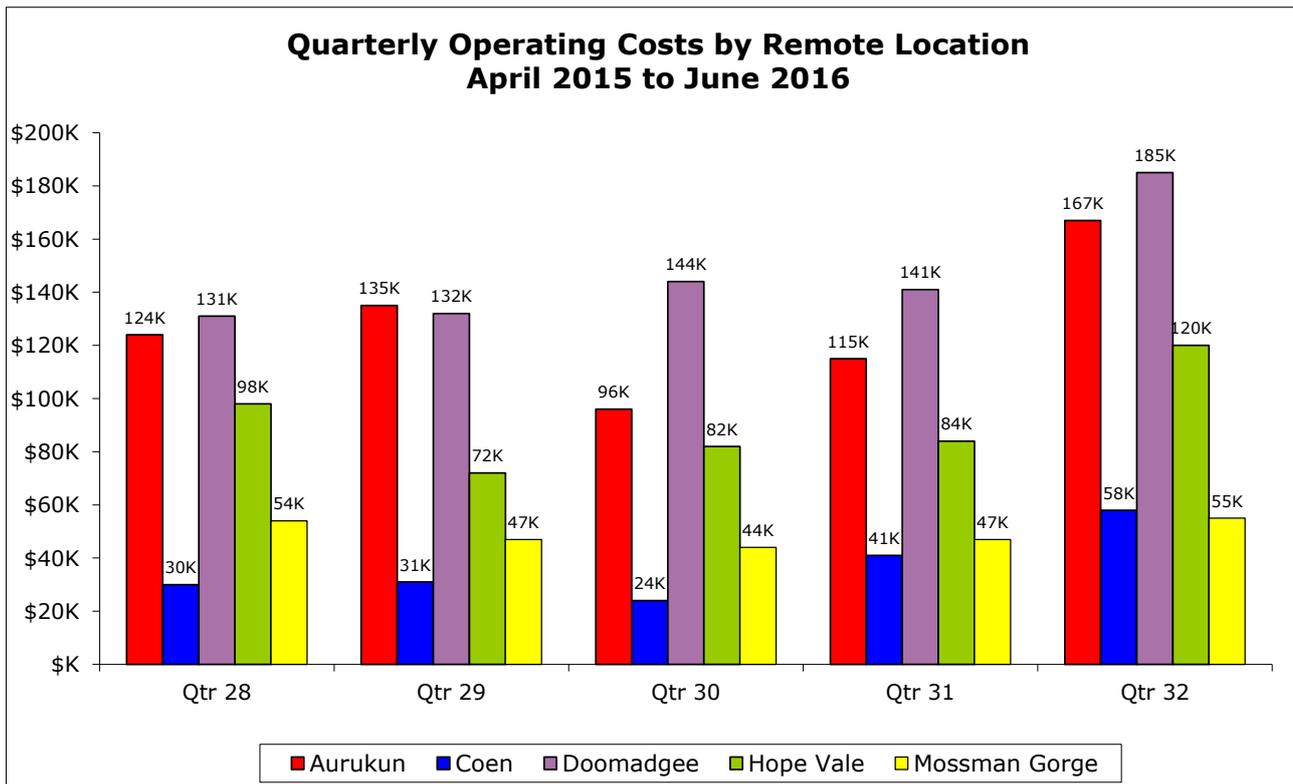
**Table 1:** Expenditure in quarter 32.

Quarter 32 disbursement of expenditure by category and percentage of total expenditure.



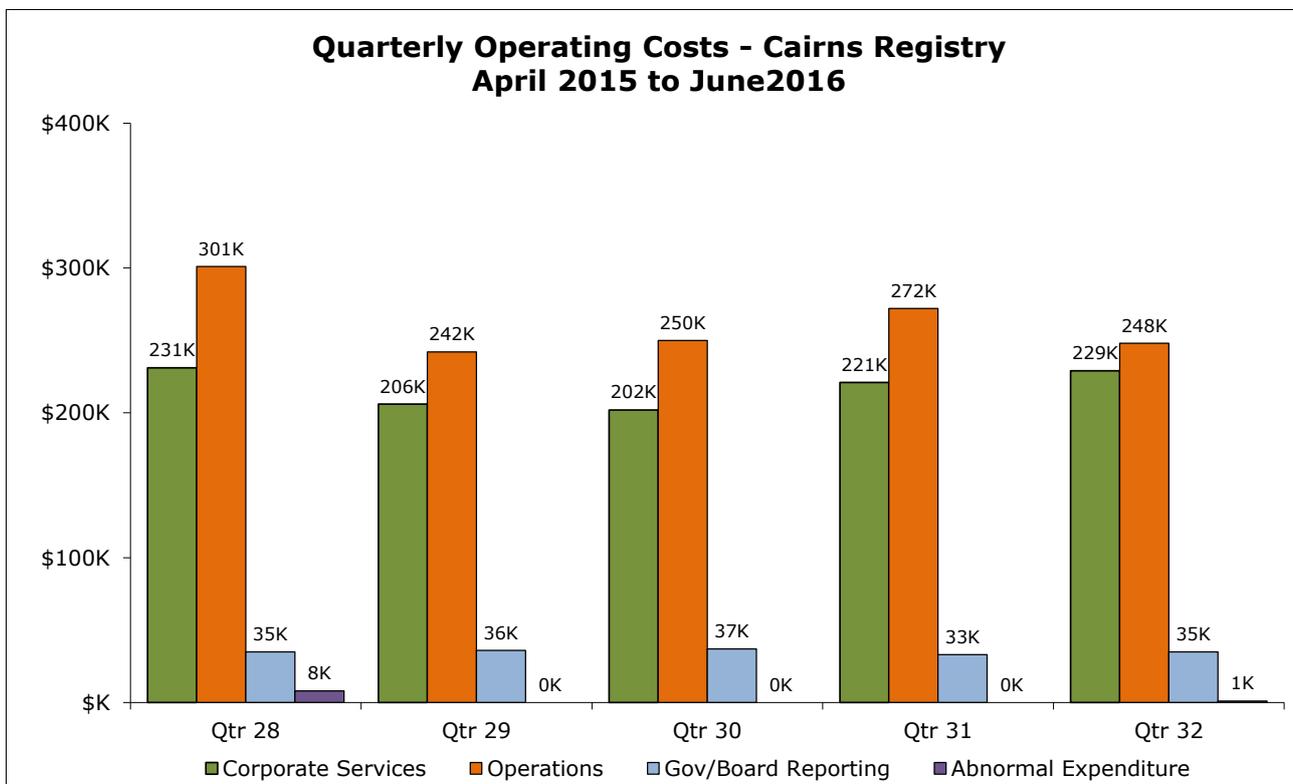
**Graph 9:** FRC operating costs 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016

Regional operational expenditure by location and quarter.



**Graph 10:** Operating costs by remote location 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2016.

Cairns Registry expenditure for quarter 32 compared to the previous five quarters.



**Graph 11:** Quarterly operating costs Cairns 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2016.

**APPENDIX A**



**SITTING CALENDAR 2016  
FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES COMMISSION  
1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016**



Week Beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Other
4 January						Cooktown Circuit
11 January						Aurukun Cape B & Coen Cape A Circuit
18 January						19 ASC Meeting, 20/21 DSC Meeting Doomadgee - Gulf Circuit
25 January		Public Holiday				26 Australia Day
1 February		2 2	3 3	4 4		Cooktown Circuit
8 February	8	9	10	11		Aurukun Cape B Circuit
15 February		16 16	17 17	18 18		16 ASC Meeting, 17/18 DSC Meeting Doomadgee - Gulf Circuit
22 February	22	23	24			
29 February		1 1	2	3 3		
7 March	7	8	9			Cooktown Circuit
14 March		15 15	16	17 17		15 ASC Meeting, 16/17 DSC Meeting Local Government Elections 19/3/2015 Aurukun Cape B & Coen Cape A Circuit Doomadgee - Gulf Circuit
21 March	21 21	22	23		Public Holiday	25 Good Friday
28 March	Public Holiday			31		28 Easter Monday
4 April						Cooktown Circuit
11 April		12 12	13	14 14		Aurukun Cape B Circuit
18 April	18	19	20	21		18 ASC Meeting, 20/21 DSC Meeting Doomadgee - Gulf Circuit
25 April	Public Holiday	26	27	28 28		25 Anzac Day
2 May	Public Holiday					2 Labour Day Commissioner Development Week Cooktown Circuit

**SITTING CALENDAR 2016**  
**FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES COMMISSION**  
**1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016**

Week Beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Other
9 May		10	11	12		Aurukun Cape B & Coen Cape A Circuit
16 May		17	18	19		17 ASC Meeting, 18/19 DSC Meeting Doomadgee - Gulf Circuit
23 May	23	24	25			
30 May		31	1	2		Cooktown Circuit
6 June	6	7	8			
13 June		14	15	16		15/16 DSC Meeting Aurukun Cape B Circuit
20 June	20	21	22	23		20 ASC Meeting Doomadgee - Gulf Circuit
27 June						
4 July						Cooktown Circuit
11 July		12	13			Aurukun Cape B & Coen Cape A Circuit
18 July		19	20	21	Public Holiday	Estimates 19, 20, 21 and 22 22 Cairns Show Day 19 ASC Meeting, 20/21 DSC Meeting Doomadgee - Gulf Circuit
25 July	25	26	27	28		25 Mossman Show Estimates 26, 27, 28 and 29
1 August		2	3	4	Public Holiday	4 Aurukun Day Cooktown Circuit Doomadgee - Gulf Circuit
8 August	8	9	10			
15 August		16	17	18		16 ASC Meeting, 17/18 DSC Meeting Aurukun Cape B Circuit Doomadgee - Gulf Circuit
22 August	22	23	24		Public Holiday	26 Doomadgee Day

**SITTING CALENDAR 2016**  
**FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES COMMISSION**  
**1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016**

Week Beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Other
29 August		30 30	31	1		
5 September	5	6	7			Cooktown Circuit
12 September		13 13	14	15 15		Aurukun Cape B & Coen Cape A Circuit Doomadgee - Gulf Circuit
19 September						20 ASC Meeting, 21/22 DSC Meeting
26 September						
3 October	Public Holiday	4	5	6 6		3 Queens Birthday Cooktown Circuit
10 October		11 11	12	13		Aurukun Cape B Circuit Doomadgee - Gulf Circuit
17 October		18 18 18	19	20		19/20 DSC Meeting
24 October	24	25	26			27 ASC Meeting
31 October		1 1 1	2			Cooktown Circuit
7 November		8 8	9	10		Doomadgee - Gulf Circuit
14 November		15 15 15	16	17		15 ASC Meeting, 16/17 DSC Meeting Aurukun Cape B & Coen Cape A Circuit
21 November		22 22	23	24		
28 November		29 29 29	30			CYAAA schools finish 2/12/2016
5 December						Aurukun Cape B Circuit Doomadgee - Gulf Circuit
12 December						Cooktown Circuit 13 ASC Meeting
19 December						21/22 DSC Meeting
26 December	Public Holiday	Public Holiday				25 Christmas Day, 26 Boxing Day 27, 28, 29, 30 Office closed for Xmas

## LEGEND

	Office Days
	Public Holidays
	Aurukun Sitting
	Coen Sitting
	Doomadgee Sittings
	Hope Vale Sitting
	Mossman Gorge Sitting
ASC	Aurukun Shire Council Meeting
DSC	Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council Meeting
∅	Cancelled Conference

OFFICE	CONTACT NAME	Phone	Mobile	Facsimile
Cairns – Registrar	Ms Maxine McLeod	4057 3871	0409 461 624	4041 0974
Cairns – Client Manager	Ms Camille Banks	4057 3874	0419 647 948	4041 0974
Cairns – Accountant	Ms Andrea Cotten	4057 3875	0429 495 353	4041 0974
Aurukun Local Coordinator	Ms Dellis Gledhill	4060 6185	0428 985 106	4060 6094
Coen Local Coordinator	Ms Sandi Rye		0417 798 392	4041 0974
Doomadgee Local Coordinator	Mr Bryce Coxall	4745 8111	0418 666 204	4745 8366
Hope Vale Local Coordinator	Ms Samantha Foster	4060 9153	0408 482 026	4060 9137
Mossman Gorge Local Coordinator	Ms Sandi Rye		0417 798 392	4041 0974