

# **Family Responsibilities Commission**

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

## **Quarterly Report**

**No. 45**

**July 2019 to September 2019**



*Report prepared by the Family Responsibilities Commission under the leadership of  
Commissioner Tammy Williams*

## Executive Summary

Quantified in the table below are the activities undertaken by the Commission during quarter 45 with comparisons shown to the previous quarter.

**Table 1:** Activity from 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2019.

Activity	Qtr 44	Qtr 45	Movement
Within jurisdiction agency notices received	1400	1457	↑
Conferences held	737	624	↓
Family Responsibility Agreements entered into	8	0	↓
Orders made to attend community support services	30	41	↑
Conditional Income Management Orders made	88	83	↓
Voluntary Income Management Agreements entered into	8	2	↓
Clients case-managed	73	92	↑
Referrals made	33	42	↑
Applications to Amend or End received	13	17	↑
Show Cause conferences held	0	0	→

The Family Responsibilities Commission is pleased to announce the appointment of Tammy Williams as its new Commissioner, replacing David Glasgow who retired this quarter after 11 years as CEO. Commissioner Williams commenced on 2 September 2019 and her appointment is effective until 30 June 2020 pending further negotiations between the Queensland and Australian Governments and policy work into the future direction of the FRC. Tammy Williams is a Murri woman from the Guwa people near Winton and the Wangan and Jagalingou people of central Queensland. She is the first Aboriginal Commissioner to be appointed as CEO of the FRC. Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Jackie Trad MP, stated: *"Ms Williams' appointment as Commissioner provides strong leadership for the Welfare Reform communities serviced by the FRC. Ms Williams has the energy, vision and ability to communicate across local, corporate and government levels and offers a strategic and fresh leadership approach."*

David Glasgow's significant contribution as the Commission's CEO is well known. He has led the Commission since its inception in 2008 and is now celebrating the end of an exceptional career that has achieved many goals. He has given the Commission and those working within it direction, guidance and inspiration. He will be greatly missed by the Commission, its strategic partners, service providers and many community members in the Welfare Reform communities.

On 18 September the Commission was invited to present evidence to the Standing Committee on Community Affairs, Legislation Committee, on the Inquiry into the Social Security (Administration) Amendment (Income Management to Cashless Debit Card Transition) Bill 2019. On 23 September David Glasgow (as former FRC Commissioner), Commissioner Tammy Williams, Acting Registrar Tracey Paterson and Zoe Ellerman, Director Cape York Institute appeared before the committee. Evidence presented to the Inquiry is further detailed in the Future Direction and Challenges section of this report.

Local Commissioners continue to develop as important authority figures in their respective communities and their ability to make decisions affecting the direction and action their fellow community members take to bring about changes to their lives is critical to the success of the Commission. The Local Commissioners continued this quarter to assist their community members and this has been reflected above with an increased number of orders to attend community support services and consequently more clients being case-managed. They also continue to receive recognition for their efforts by regularly being called upon to give advice to government and non-government agencies as highlighted by their submission to the

Community Affairs Legislation Committee, Department of the Senate on 25 September. In their submission the Commissioners reiterated their support for the continuation of Income Management and the transition from the BasicsCard to the Cashless Debit Card – *"Our model puts power in our hands through the FRC, so as respected local leaders we can intervene where people are not meeting their basic responsibilities to their children and our community. We bring people to the FRC for conferencing, and we have power to intervene with care, support and love – sometimes with tough love, which is when Income Management is an important tool for us. Our model is not a blanket approach"*.

Subject to the above inquiry and proposed transition, approximately 150 Cape York residents will transfer from the current BasicsCard to the Cashless Debit Card. In preparation for such a transition the Commission has been liaising with the Department of Social Services during the quarter to understand the implications and plan for a seamless transition process.

The Commission provided further development and training to the Local Commissioners at the Local Commissioner Planning Week conducted from 23 to 26 September. Local Commissioners from Aurukun, Coen, Doomadgee, Hope Vale and Mossman Gorge travelled to Cairns for the week and presented to the delegates community reports incorporating their desire for strengthening relationships, setting strategic priorities, meeting challenges and developing a vision for the future. A review of operations was conducted by the Client Manager during which statistics were presented and analysed, FRC objectives were reassessed and goals refreshed. Dr Maree Toombs conducted an I-Assist Indigenous Suicide Awareness Program and Consultation which expanded upon the LivingWorks Australia safeTALK workshop conducted at the Local Commissioner Development Week held in June 2019.

Most importantly the planning week provided the opportunity to officially transition from the leadership of Commissioner David Glasgow whose retirement was effective from 1 September, to newly appointed Commissioner Tammy Williams who commenced as the Family Responsibilities Commissioner on 2 September 2019. Noel Pearson provided a recorded address for the retiring FRC Commissioner, new FRC Commissioner, Local Commissioners and staff. He expressed his pride in the advocacy provided by the Local Commissioners on behalf of their people and advised that there are conflicting views on how best Welfare Reform can continue to assist community members. *"We are very privileged and happy that a young Indigenous lawyer in the person of Tammy Williams has decided to become our Commissioner. She is a very distinguished lawyer and I personally look forward to working with her."* He expressed his gratitude to David Glasgow and Rod Curtin (past Deputy Commissioner). *"I want to thank David Glasgow and Rod Curtin for the steadfast commitment and support they have given us for the past decade. We owe them a great debt of gratitude. They have made a mark for the benefit of our people. Their good deeds on behalf of our people have not gone unappreciated."*

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### **Abbreviations**

CIM	Conditional Income Management
DATSIP	Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
DoE	Department of Education
DJAG	Department of Justice and Attorney-General
DV	Domestic Violence
DVB	Domestic Violence Breach
DVO	Domestic Violence Order
FRA	Family Responsibilities Agreement
FRC	Family Responsibilities Commission
QPS	Queensland Police Service
VIM	Voluntary Income Management

### **Also:**

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

# Family Responsibilities Commission Welfare Reforms

Report to 30 September 2019.

## 1. Activities and Trends

### Notices

In quarter 45 the Commission received **2,166 agency notices**<sup>1</sup>. Some individuals may have been the subject of more than one agency notice. Of that figure 1,457 notices (67 percent) were within the Commission's jurisdiction and 709 notices (33 percent) were outside the Commission's jurisdiction.

**Table 2:** In jurisdiction notices by type and community 1 July 2019 to 30 September 2019.

Type of Notice	AU	CO	DM <sup>2</sup>	HV	MG	Total
Supreme Court notices	0	0	-	0	0	<b>0</b>
District Court notices	5	0	-	8	0	<b>13</b>
Magistrates Court notices	186	8	-	49	23	<b>266</b>
Domestic Violence Breach notices	19	1	-	6	1	<b>27</b>
Domestic Violence Order notices	44	1	-	13	8	<b>66</b>
School Attendance notices	333	51	410	178	31	<b>1003</b>
School Enrolment notice	0	0	0	2	2	<b>4</b>
Child Safety and Welfare notices	20	2	33	7	2	<b>64</b>
Housing Tenancy notices	1	4	-	7	2	<b>14</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>1457</b>

**Further details of notices within jurisdiction for each community are set out below:**

- Aurukun's **608** notices constitute **41.73** percent of the total notices in jurisdiction across the welfare reform communities.
- Coen's **67** notices constitute **4.60** percent of the total notices in jurisdiction.
- Doomadgee's **443** notices constitute **30.40** percent of the total notices in jurisdiction.
- Hope Vale's **270** notices constitute **18.53** percent of the total notices in jurisdiction.
- Mossman Gorge's **69** notices constitute **4.74** percent of the total notices in jurisdiction.

**Table 3:** Not within jurisdiction notices by type and community 1 July 2019 to 30 September 2019.

Type of Notice	AU	CO	DM <sup>2</sup>	HV	MG	Total
Supreme Court notices	0	0	-	0	0	<b>0</b>
District Court notices	0	0	-	27	4	<b>31</b>
Magistrates Court notices	211	7	-	75	144	<b>437</b>
Domestic Violence Breach notices	10	0	-	3	5	<b>18</b>
Domestic Violence Order notices	6	0	-	18	22	<b>46</b>
School Attendance notices	30	15	93	34	0	<b>172</b>
School Enrolment notice	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Child Safety and Welfare notices	0	0	4	0	0	<b>4</b>
Housing Tenancy notices	0	1	-	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>709</b>

<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.

<sup>2</sup> Agency notices for the community of Doomadgee are presently received from the Department of Education and the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women only.

**Table 4:** Court locations for in jurisdiction DVB and DVO notices 1 July 2019 to 30 September 2019.

<b>Court Location</b>	<b>Number of DVB notices</b>	<b>Number of DVO notices</b>	<b>Total</b>
Aurukun	15	40	<b>55</b>
Cairns	6	2	<b>8</b>
Coen	1	2	<b>3</b>
Cooktown	4	13	<b>17</b>
Mossman	1	8	<b>9</b>
Weipa	0	1	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>93</b>

Since its commencement the Commission has received 45,958 agency notices within its jurisdiction. Total within and not within jurisdiction notices increased from 1,910 in quarter 44 to 2,166 in quarter 45. Of those notices within jurisdiction all notice types apart from Domestic Violence Order notices increased from quarter 44 to quarter 45. A breakdown of within jurisdiction notices is provided below.

District Court notices increased this quarter to 13 from 12 received in the previous quarter. Aurukun increased by 3 notices and Hope Vale decreased by 2 notices. Coen and Mossman Gorge remained unchanged with zero notices received for the quarter. The Commission does not receive District Court notices for Doomadgee.

Magistrates Court notices increased this quarter to 266 from 246 received in the previous quarter. Aurukun and Mossman Gorge increased by 31 and 10 notices respectively, whilst Coen and Hope Vale decreased by 3 and 18 notices respectively. The Commission does not receive Magistrates Court notices for Doomadgee.

Domestic Violence Breach notices increased from 14 in quarter 44 to 27 in quarter 45. Aurukun increased by 11 notices, Coen and Mossman Gorge increased by 1 notice each, whilst Hope Vale remained unchanged with 6 notices for the quarter. The Commission does not receive Domestic Violence Breach notices for Doomadgee.

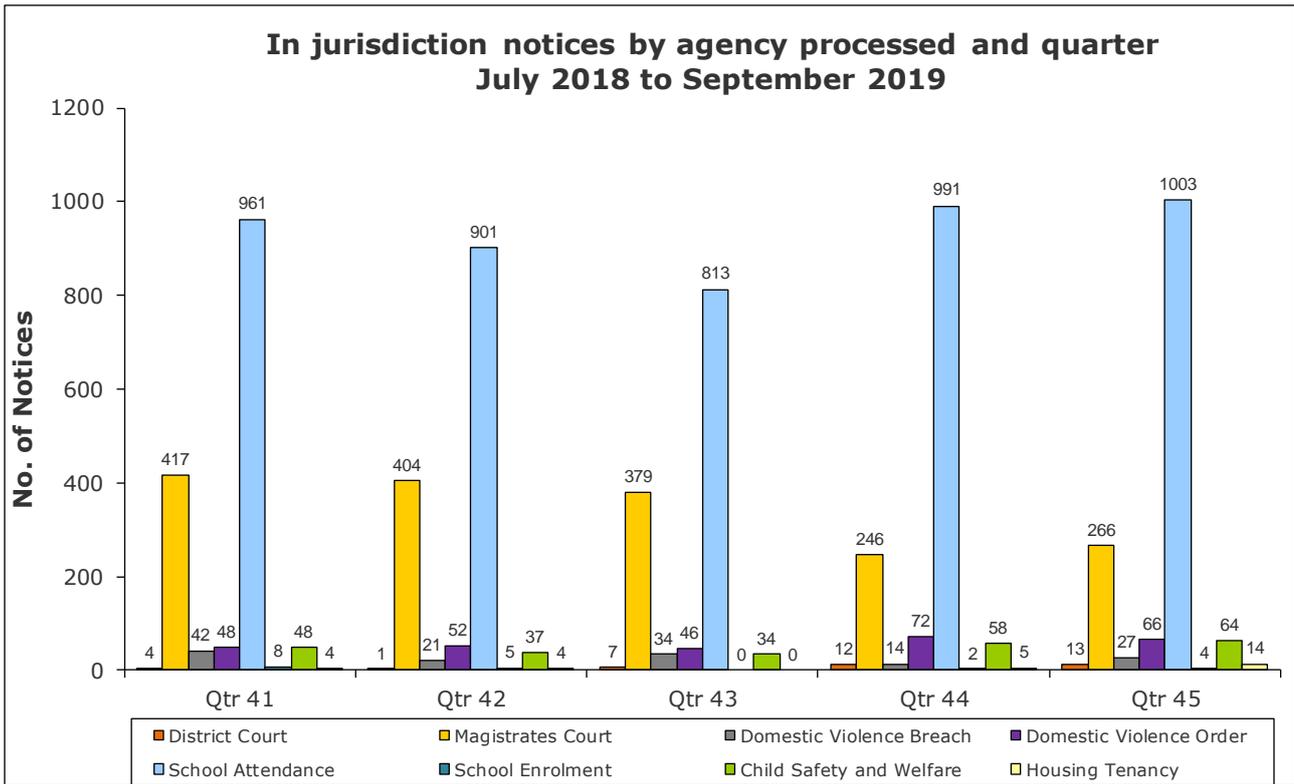
Domestic Violence Order notices decreased from 72 in quarter 44 to 66 in quarter 45. Aurukun increased by 5 notices and Mossman Gorge increased by 4 notices, whilst Coen decreased by 2 notices and Hope Vale decreased by 13 notices for the quarter. The Commission does not receive Domestic Violence Order notices for Doomadgee.

School Attendance notices increased from 991 in quarter 44 to 1003 in quarter 45. Three out of the five communities experienced an increase in notices this quarter. Coen, Doomadgee and Mossman Gorge increased by 32, 22 and 10 notices respectively, whilst Aurukun and Hope Vale decreased by 47 and 5 notices respectively.

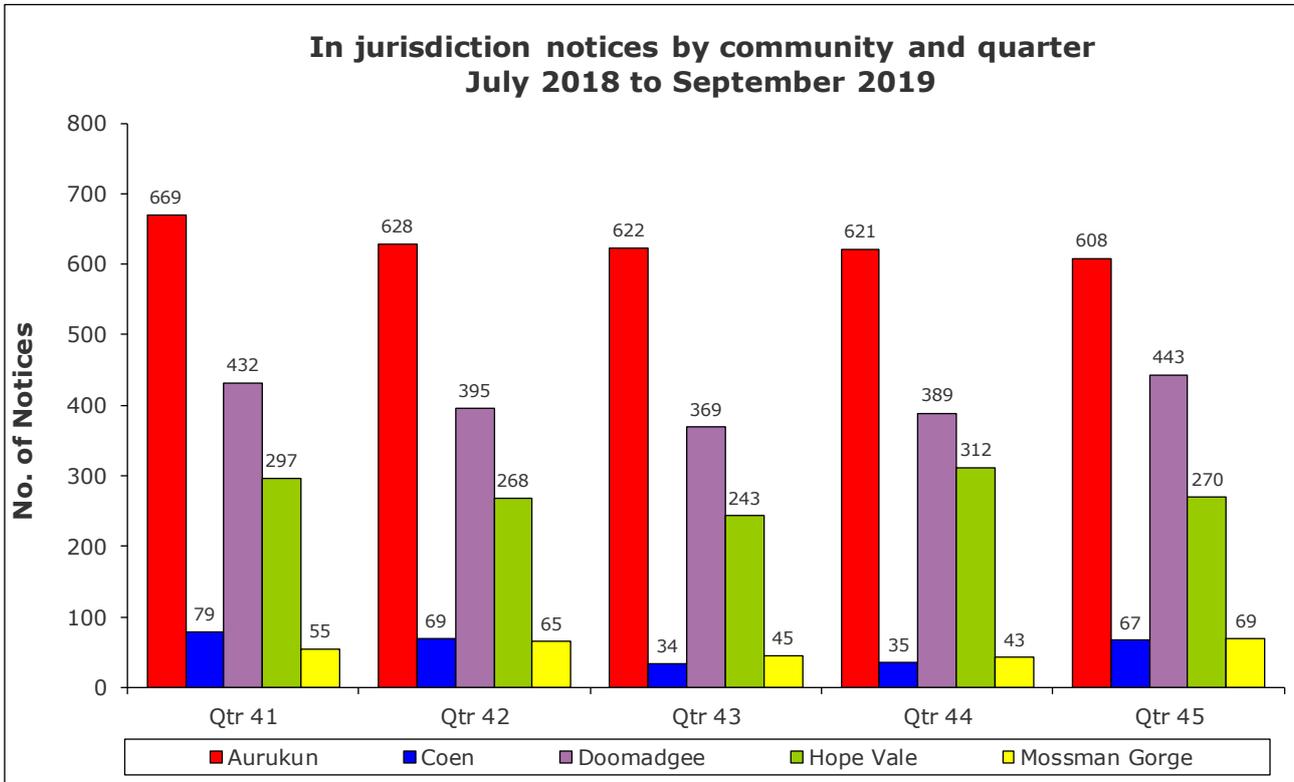
School Enrolment notices increased from 2 in quarter 44 to 4 in quarter 45. Hope Vale increased by 2 notices, whilst Mossman Gorge remained unchanged with 2 notices received. Aurukun, Coen and Doomadgee remained unchanged with 0 notices received for the quarter.

Child Safety and Welfare notices increased from 58 in quarter 44 to 64 in quarter 45. Aurukun and Hope Vale decreased by 17 and 11 notices respectively, whilst Doomadgee and Mossman Gorge increased by 32 and 2 notices respectively and Coen remained unchanged with 2 notices for the quarter.

Housing Tenancy notices increased from 5 in quarter 44 to 14 in quarter 45 with Aurukun, Coen and Hope Vale increasing by 1, 4 and 5 notices respectively and Mossman Gorge decreasing by 1 notice. The Commission does not receive Housing Tenancy notices for Doomadgee.



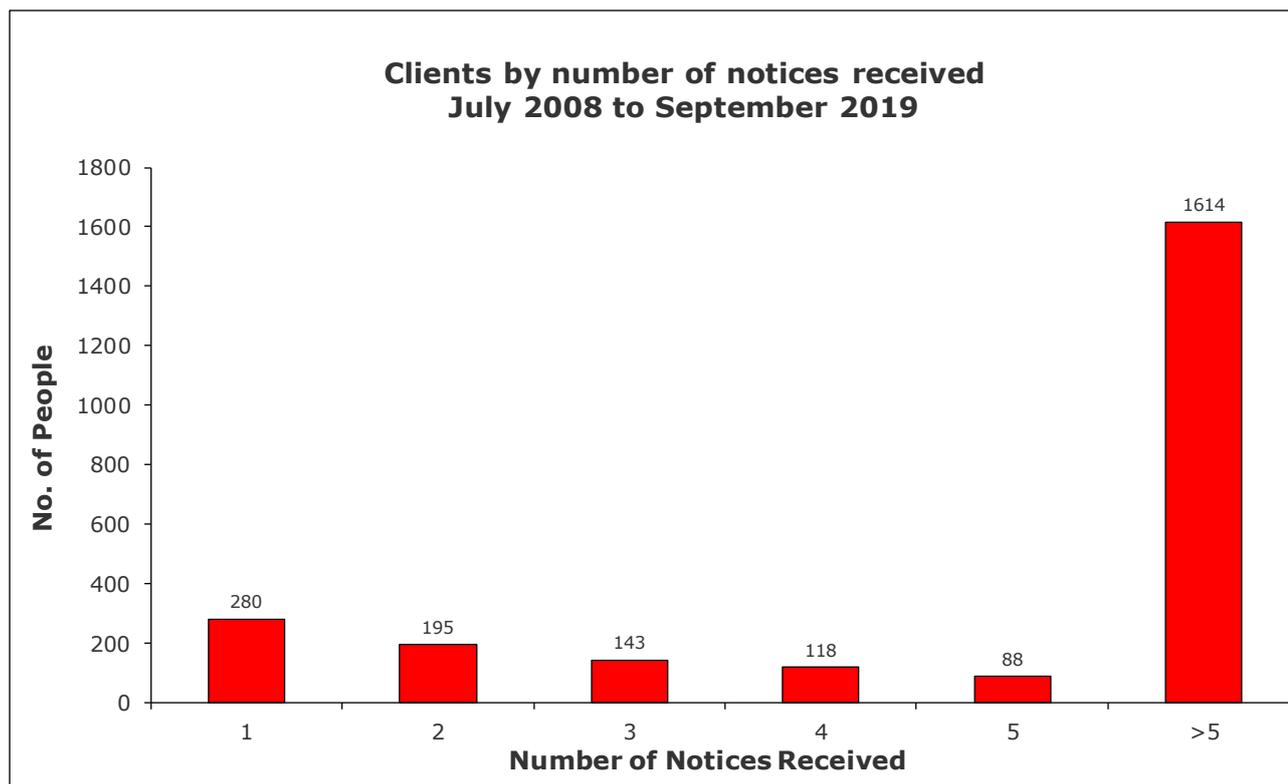
**Graph 1:** In jurisdiction notices by agency processed and quarter 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2019.



**Graph 2:** In jurisdiction notices by community and quarter 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2019.

Since commencement in July 2008, 88.5 percent of clients have received more than one notice with 66.2 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, 11.5 percent of clients have received only one notice.



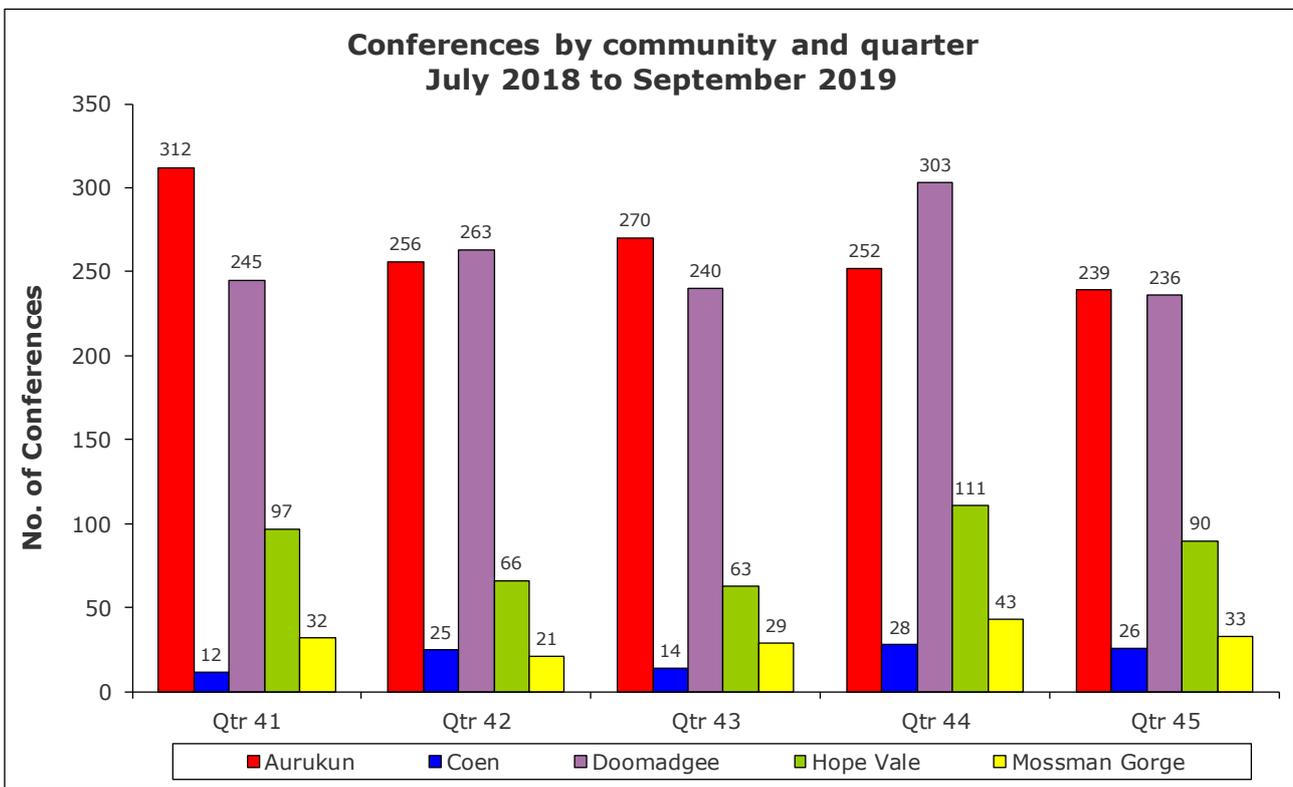
**Graph 3:** FRC clients by number of notices 1 July 2008 to 30 September 2019.

(**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

A total of 624 conferences<sup>3</sup> pertaining to all matters were held across the five communities in quarter 45, resulting in 0 FRAs being entered into, 41 orders made to attend community support services and 83 CIM orders issued. When compared to last quarter, this represents a decrease of 8 FRAs, an increase of 11 orders to attend community support services and a decrease of 5 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. Thirty-three new clients were added to the Commission’s database during the quarter. Conferences decreased from 737 in quarter 44 to 624 in quarter 45.

<sup>3</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.



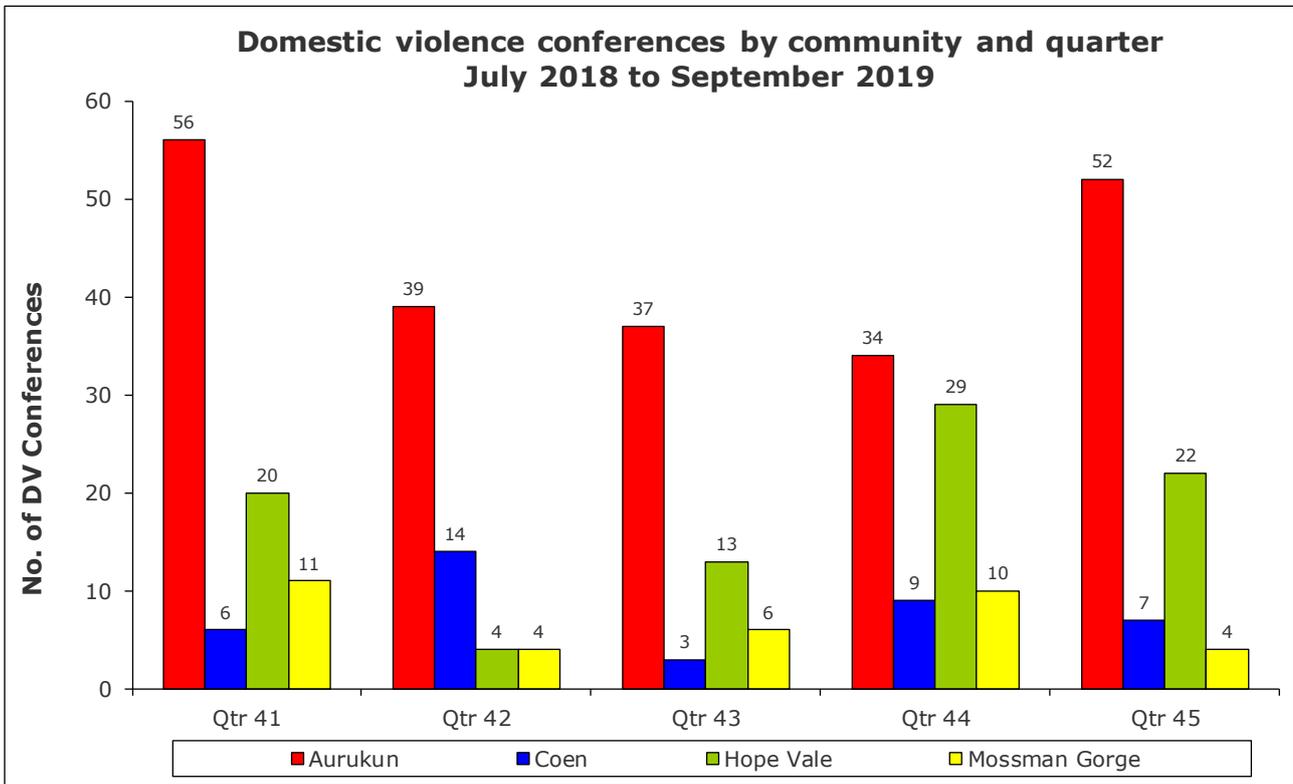
**Graph 4:** Conferences by community and quarter 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2019.

#### Conferences for Domestic Violence related matters

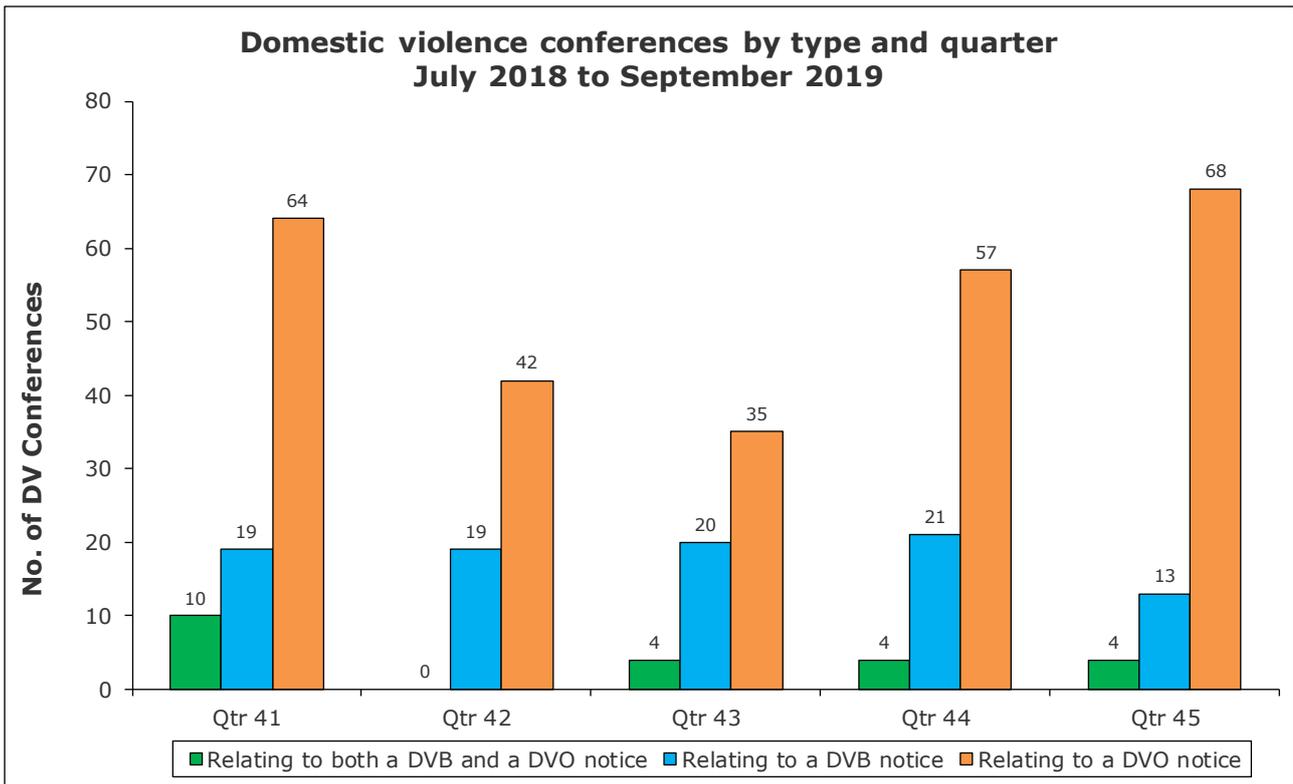
As a subset of the total number of conferences conducted for the quarter, 85 domestic violence conferences were conducted in Aurukun, Coen, Hope Vale and Mossman Gorge in quarter 45, representing an increase of 3 from the previous quarter. Domestic violence conferences in the communities during the quarter were as follows: Aurukun increased by 18, Coen decreased by 2, Hope Vale decreased by 7 and Mossman Gorge decreased by 6 domestic violence conferences.

**Table 5:** Number of conferences held in relation to domestic violence notices (breaches and orders) per community 1 July 2019 to 30 September 2019.

Number of Domestic Violence Conferences	AU	CO	HV	MG	Total
Relating to both a DVB and a DVO notice	3	0	1	0	<b>4</b>
Relating to a DVB notice	4	3	3	3	<b>13</b>
Relating to a DVO notice	45	4	18	1	<b>68</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>85</b>



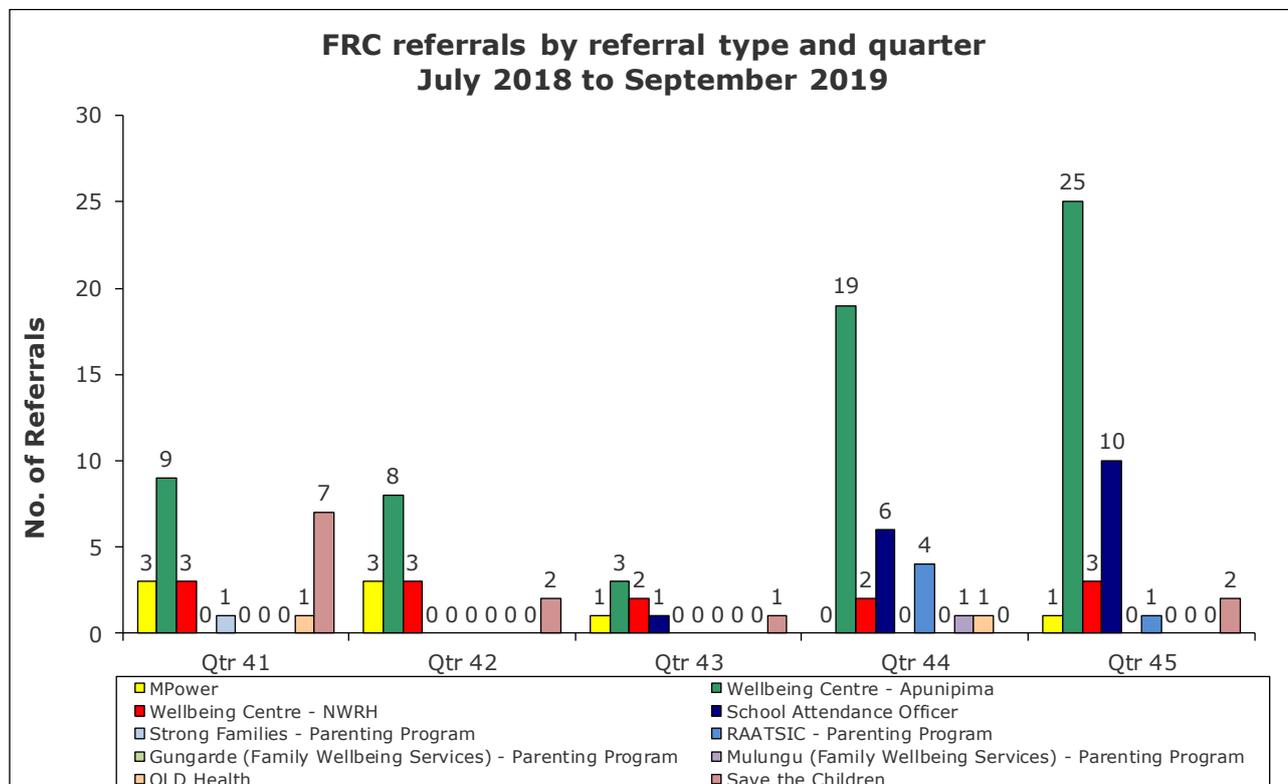
**Graph 5:** Domestic violence conferences by community and quarter 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2019.



**Graph 6:** Domestic violence conferences by type and quarter 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2019.

## Referrals

The total number of referrals to service providers increased from 33 in quarter 44 to 42 in quarter 45, relating to 41 clients. Since commencement the Commission has referred 1,064 clients to service providers resulting in approximately 43.3 percent of clients on service referral plans. Referrals in the communities during the quarter were as follows: Aurukun increased by 12; Coen decreased by 6; Doomadgee increased by 6; Hope Vale increased by 3 and Mossman Gorge decreased by 6 referrals for the quarter.



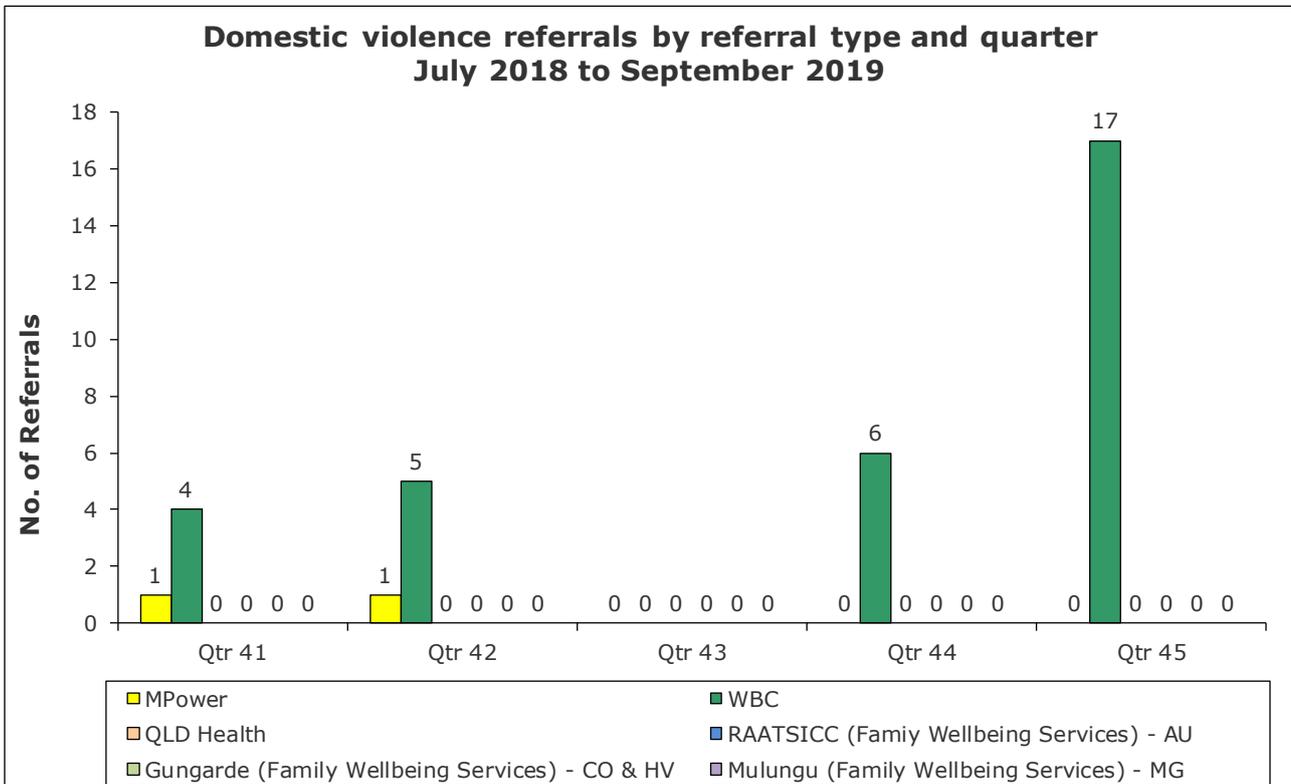
**Graph 7:** Referrals by referral type and quarter 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2019.

## Referrals for Domestic Violence related matters

As a subset of the total number of referrals in the quarter, 17 referrals were made in relation to domestic violence conferences in quarter 45, representing an increase of 11 from the previous quarter.

**Table 6:** Number of referrals in relation to domestic violence notices (breaches and orders) per community 1 July 2019 to 30 September 2019.

Notice Type	Community	Referral	Provider Total
<b>BOTH</b>	Aurukun	Wellbeing Centre	2
	Hope Vale	Wellbeing Centre	1
	<b>BOTH Total</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>DVB</b>	Aurukun	Wellbeing Centre	1
	Hope Vale	Wellbeing Centre	1
	<b>DVB Total</b>		<b>2</b>
<b>DVO</b>	Aurukun	Wellbeing Centre	7
	Hope Vale	Wellbeing Centre	5
	<b>DVO Total</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			<b>17</b>



**Graph 8:** Domestic violence referrals by referral type and quarter 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2019.

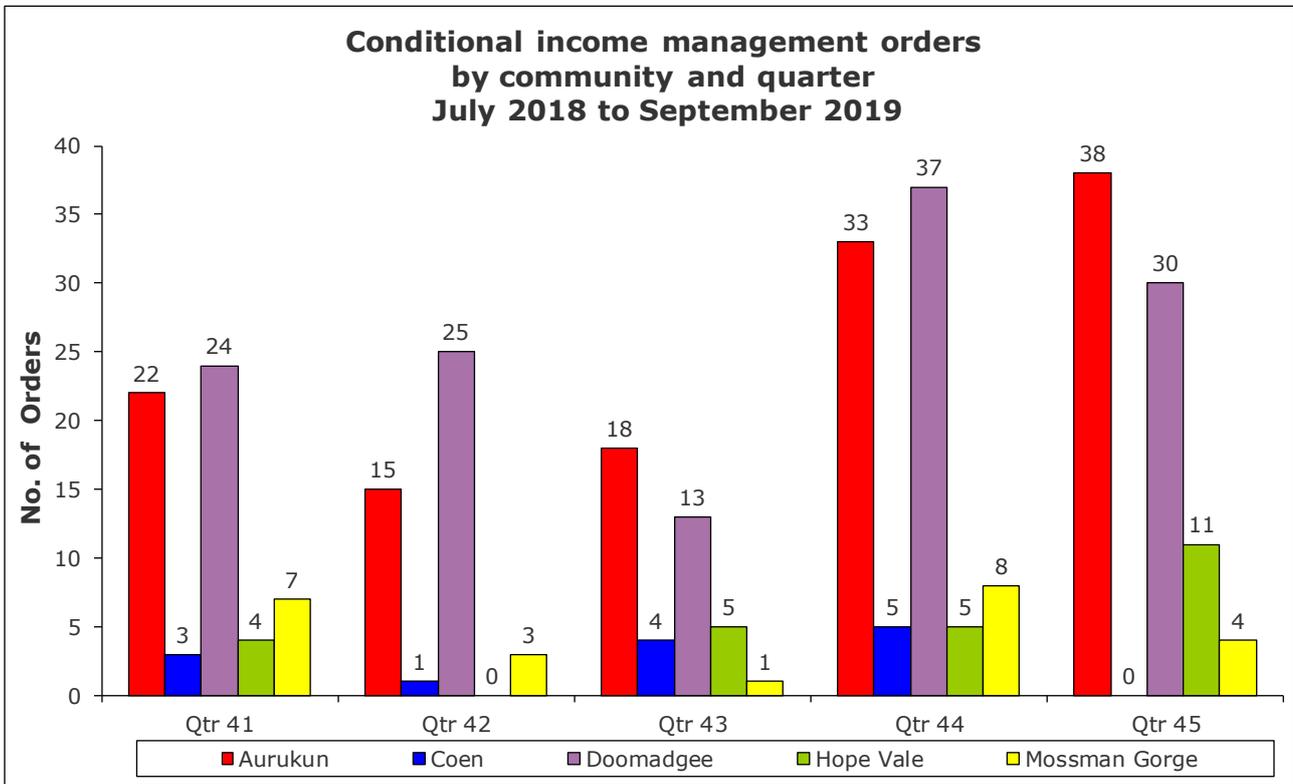
### Conditional Income Management

A total of 83 CIM orders were made in quarter 45, a decrease of 5 from quarter 44. Since the commencement of the Commission 2,671 CIM orders inclusive of original orders, extensions and amendments have been made relating to 922 clients. Increases were seen in Aurukun and Hope Vale of 5 and 6 CIM orders respectively. Coen, Doomadgee and Mossman Gorge saw a decrease of 5, 7 and 4 CIM orders respectively for the quarter.

As at 30 September 2019, 37.5 percent of the Commission's clients have been subject to a CIM over the past 11 and a quarter years. As at 30 September 2019 there were 167 clients subject to a current CIM order which equates to 6.8 percent of clients on a CIM 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 a CIM when requested by the client.

**Table 7:** Number of times a client has been placed on conditional income management per community 1 July 2008 to 30 September 2019.

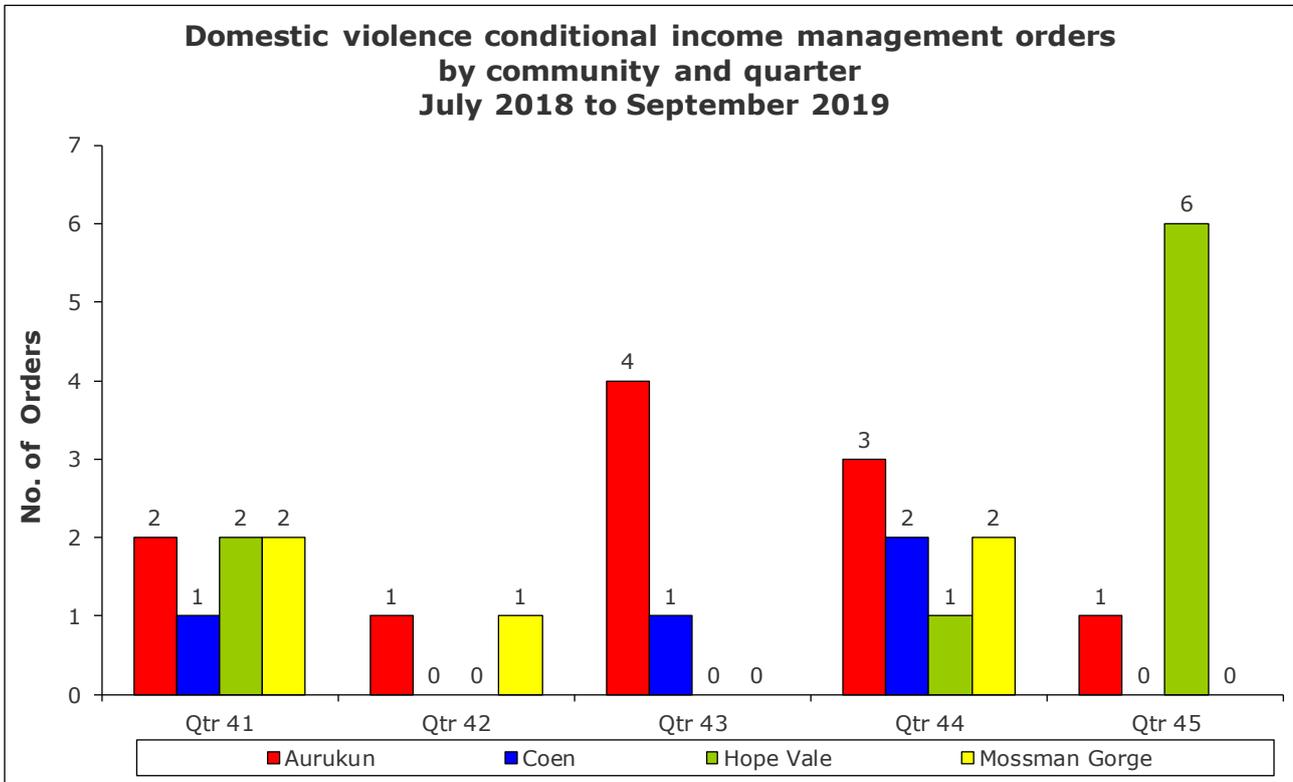
Number of CIMs	CIM'd only once	CIM'd 2-5 times	CIM'd 6-10 times	CIM'd 11+ times	Total
Aurukun	144	213	60	16	<b>433</b>
Coen	29	30	0	0	<b>59</b>
Doomadgee	40	80	3	0	<b>123</b>
Hope Vale	95	109	15	0	<b>219</b>
Mossman Gorge	32	34	20	2	<b>88</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>922</b>



**Graph 9:** Conditional income management orders by community and quarter 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2019.

**Conditional Income Management for Domestic Violence related matters**

As a subset of the total number of CIMs in the quarter, 7 CIM orders inclusive of alterations were made in relation to domestic violence conferences in quarter 45, representing a decrease of 1 from the previous quarter.



**Graph 10:** Domestic violence conditional income management orders by community and quarter 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2019.

### Voluntary Income Management

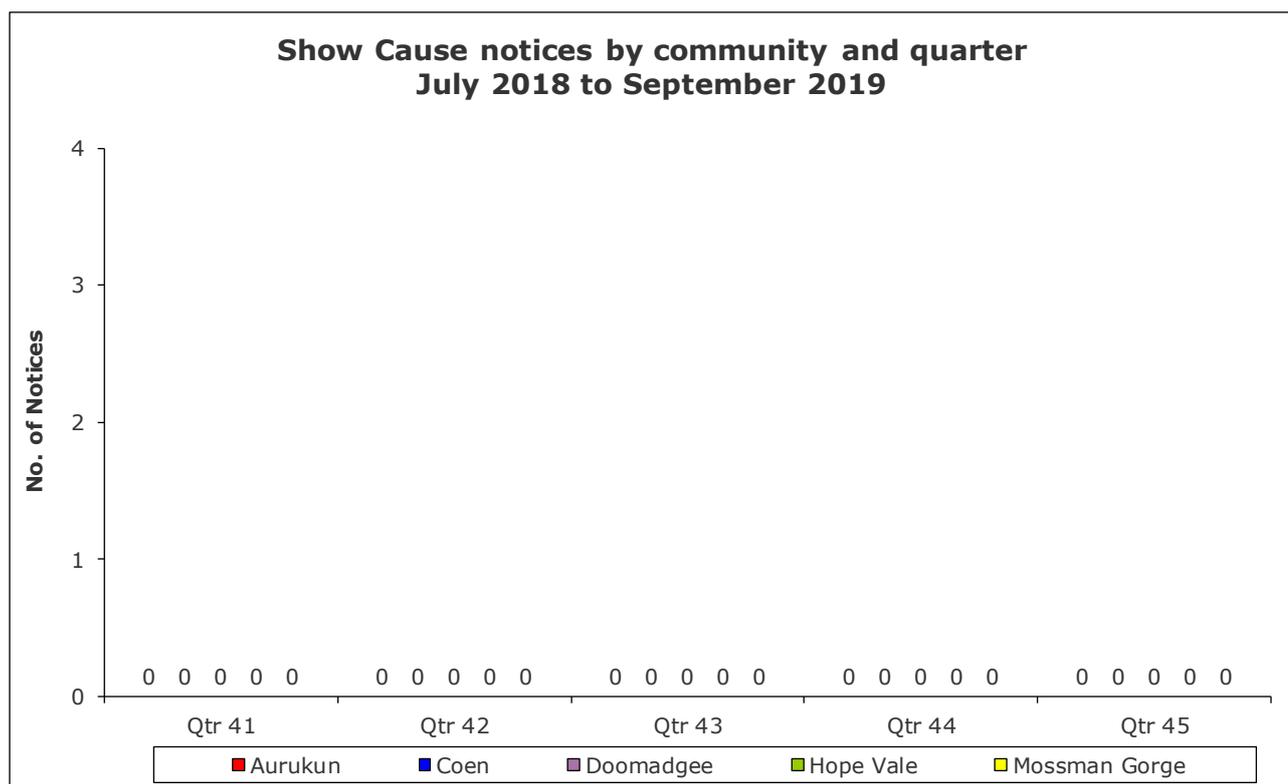
The Commission processed 2 VIM agreements this quarter and since the commencement of the Commission in 2008, 144 clients have had an active VIM agreement. Those clients that request a VIM agreement use income management as a savings and budget tool, often for a specified period and to deter family members from accessing their income.

### Case Management

As at 30 September 2019, 92 clients were being case-managed, an increase from 73 in quarter 44. Increases were seen in Aurukun, Doomadgee and Hope Vale of 17, 3 and 6 respectively. Coen and Mossman Gorge decreased by 3 and 4 respectively.

### Show Cause Notices

During quarter 45 no Show Cause hearings were held.



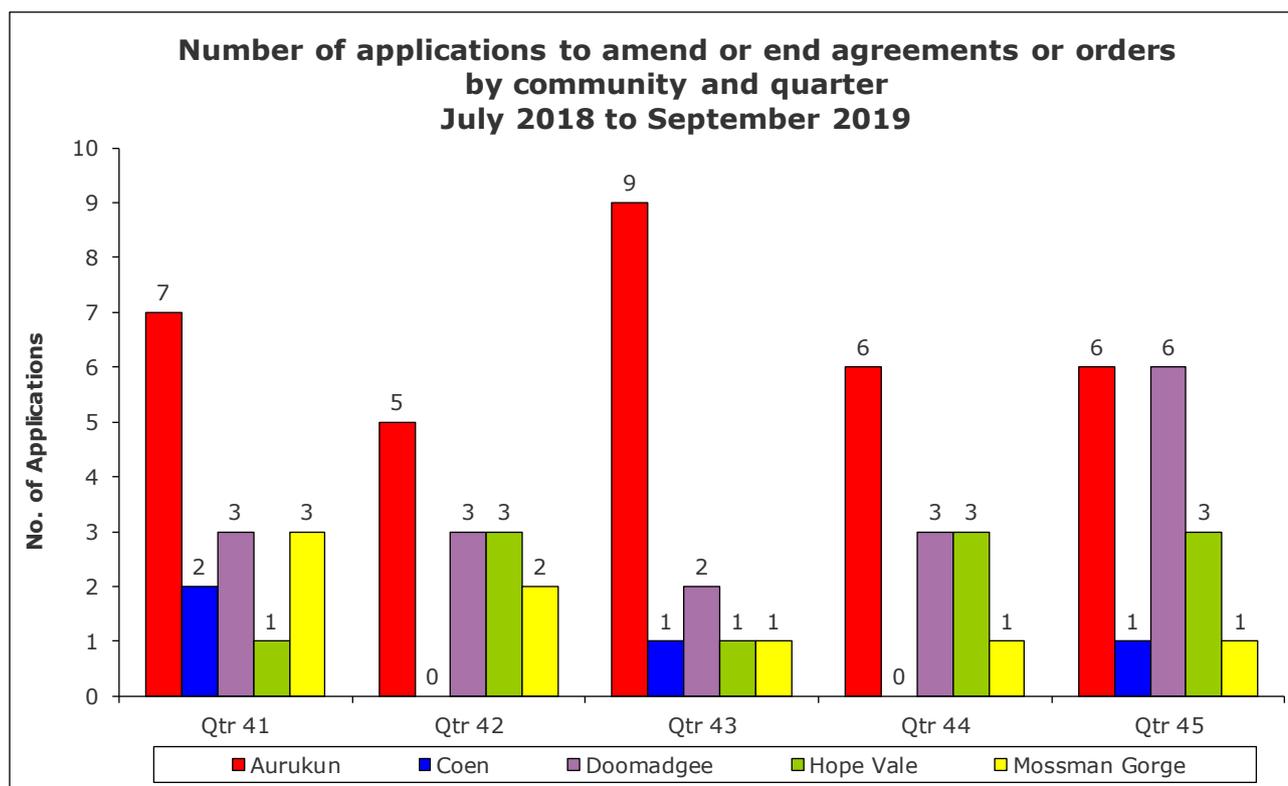
Graph 11: Show Cause notices by community and quarter 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2019.

### Applications to Amend or End Agreements or Orders

Seventeen Applications to Amend or End an Agreement or Order were received in quarter 45, an increase of 4 from quarter 44. Outcomes of the 17 applications received are as follows:

- 6 Applications granted and income management agreements and orders revoked with 1 client given a warning
- 2 CIM orders at 75 percent revoked and clients placed on a case plan and a new order at 60 percent for 12 months
- 1 CIM order at 90 percent revoked and client placed on a new order at 60 percent for 12 months
- 8 Applications refused with 2 clients given a warning.

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 12:** Applications to amend or end agreements or orders by community and quarter 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2019.

## **2. Future Direction and Challenges**

### **Local Commissioners**

July this quarter saw the Registry and 24 of the Local Commissioners commence assembling paperwork to support applications for reappointment from 1 November 2019. Only one Local Commissioner, Doomadgee Commissioner Karen Jupiter, did not seek reappointment due to personal circumstances which have necessitated her departure from the Doomadgee community. Additional to the applications for reappointment, the Commission sought expressions of interest from each community for new Local Commissioners to not only improve gender and age diversity, but to ensure the availability of Local Commissioners for conference when required. Of the Local Commissioners seeking reappointment only five do not have work obligations which affect their availability to sit in conference. Of the 20 Local Commissioners who have employment in their communities, many have fulltime responsibilities and must request leave from their employer to attend conference. Several have work commitments that take them out of community on frequent occasions which makes them difficult to contact and unavailable for conferencing. In the larger communities such as Aurukun, Doomadgee and Coen it is desirable that different clans are represented in those Commissioners present, therefore it is necessary on many occasions to have a pool of Commissioners available on conference day.

### **Proposed transition from CYIM to the Cashless Debit Card**

On Monday, 23 September 2019, following an invitation received to present evidence to the Standing Committee on Community Affairs, Legislation Committee, on the Inquiry into the Social Security (Administration) Amendment (Income Management to Cashless Debit Card Transition) Bill 2019, Commission officers gave evidence to the Committee by telelink. The Committee's consideration related in principal to the future of the BasicsCard.

Commissioner Williams advised those present of the approach to Cape York Income Management as exercised by the Local Commissioners and that 96.9 per cent of all conferences held in the financial year ended 30 June 2019 were conducted by Local Commissioners without the assistance of the FRC Commissioner or a Deputy Commissioner. The FRC model of income management is therefore clearly supportive of local authority and decision-making. This real power at the community level is power that would normally sit with government and is a unique benefit of the Welfare Reform model. Commissioner Williams further stated that the use of income management by the Local Commissioners is based on a targeted approach and mostly as a last resort. Only a small percentage (7.3 per cent in the 2018-19 financial year) were placed on a Conditional Income Management (CIM) order, and the Commissioners have the ability to link clients to support services as part of an order to provide holistic intervention to address the issues which brought them before the Commission. The Local Commissioners are highly supportive of the continuation of income management in their communities, and on the basis that the policy settings that are currently in place with the BasicsCard are implemented with the Cashless Debit Card, the Local Commissioners would welcome such a transition.

A written submission will be provided to the Committee in October 2019 to support the views of the Commission and Local Commissioners in their fight against long-term welfare dependency and for self-determination in their communities. The submission will also address specific requests for information put forward by the Committee members, the full details of which will be provided in Quarterly Report number 46.

### **FRC Commissioner transition**

Tammy Williams was honoured to accept the appointment by the Governor in Council as Commissioner for the Family Responsibilities Commission for the period 2 September 2019 to 30 June 2020. In order to assist in the transition, David Glasgow remained with the Commission on a consultancy basis to

introduce Commissioner Williams to the Registry, the Local Commissioners, Government and non-Government support organisations, community leaders and the communities in general. She has travelled extensively since her appointment and will continue to do so until the end of the calendar year to build relationships and gain a comprehensive understanding of the opportunities and challenges within our unique working environment. Commissioner Williams has affirmed her commitment to work with the Welfare Reform partners and the Family Responsibilities Board members to ensure the operations of the Commission continue to be delivered to the standards set out in the Service Charter and in accordance with the *Family Responsibilities Commission Act 2008*.

### **Memorandum of Understanding**

The Commission acknowledges the Queensland Government's 2019-20 budget commitment to fund the FRC to 30 June 2020 and looks forward to the finalisation of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Australian and Queensland Governments addressing the offer from the Australian Government of a three-year funding agreement for the period 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2021.

### 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 the following members:

- Dr Chris Sarra                      Director-General, Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (Chair)
- Mr Troy Sloan                      Group Manager, Employment, Environment and Evaluation Division, National Indigenous Australians Agency
- Mr Noel Pearson                      Founder, Cape York Partnership representing the Cape York Institute.

#### 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 received by the Commission for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 September 2019 totalled \$573,591. This income consisted of:
  - \$409,000 Queensland Government funding
  - \$156,500 Queensland Government funding – Doomadgee
  - \$0\* Australian Government funding
  - \$6,464 interest received
  - \$1,627 received in sundry income.

The balance of available funds in the bank as at 30 September 2019 is \$1,681,497

*\* the Australian Government's financial commitment for the period was unable to be released during quarter 45 as it is awaiting finalisation of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Australian and Queensland governments.*

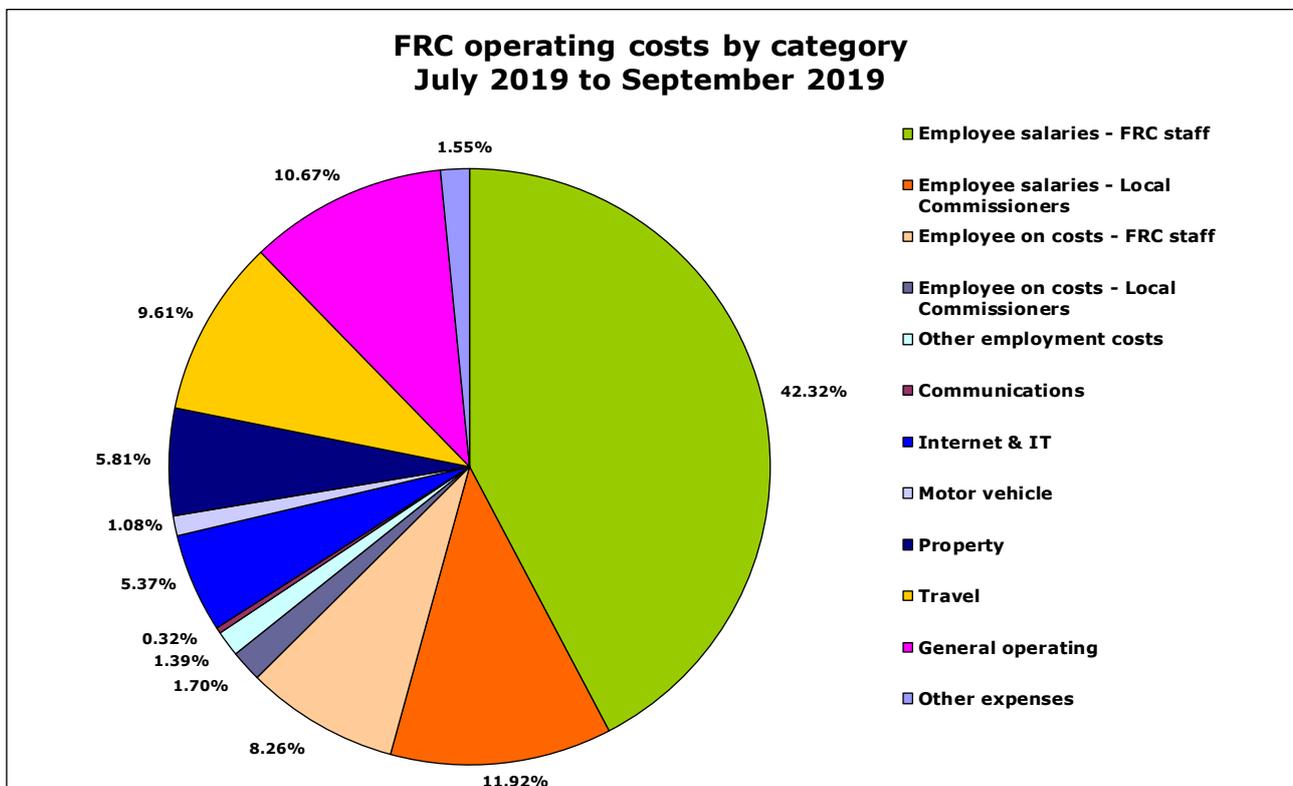
Expenditure:

- Expenditure for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 September 2019 was \$944,496.

**Table 8:** Expenditure in quarter 45.

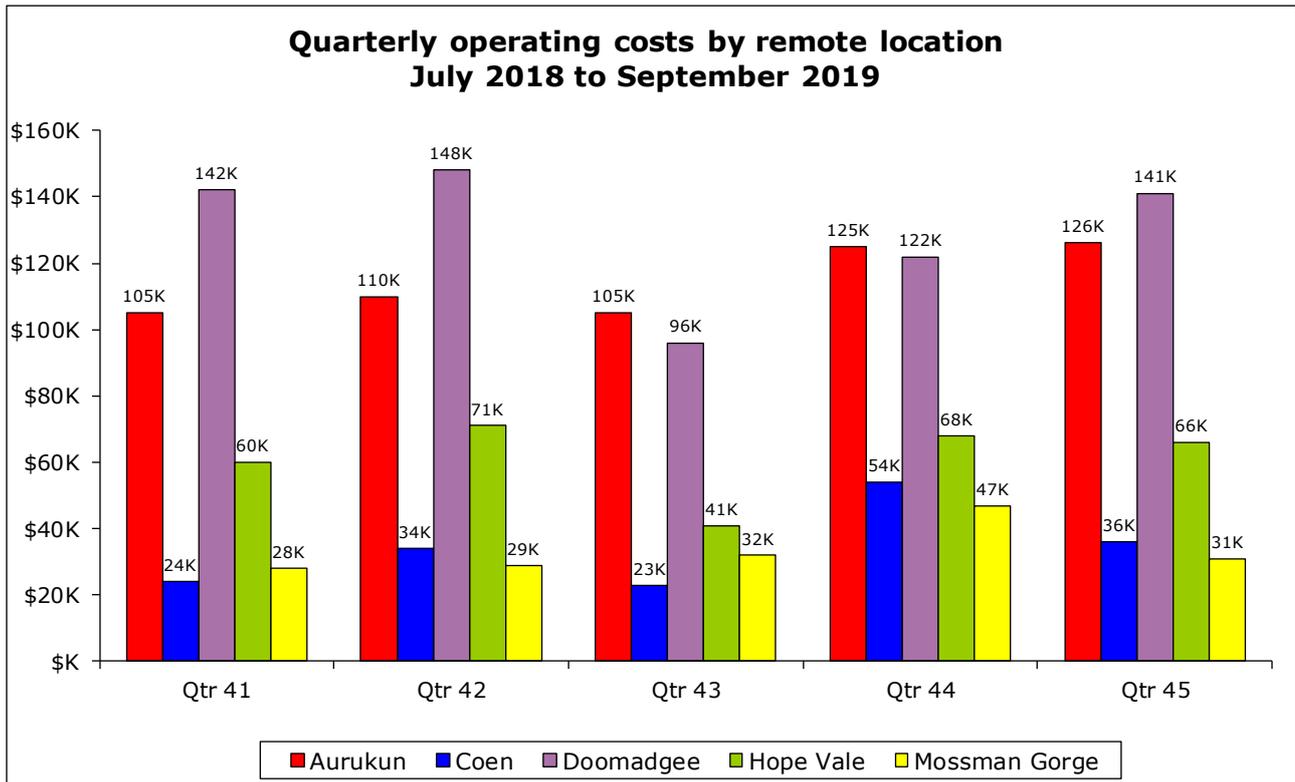
1 July 2019 to 30 September 2019	Expenditure Qtr 45	1 July 2019 to 30 September 2019	Expenditure Qtr 45
Employee salaries – FRC staff	\$399,716	Internet & IT	\$50,751
Employee salaries – Local Commissioners	\$112,550	Motor vehicle	\$10,242
Employee on costs – FRC staff	\$78,003	Property	\$54,858
Employee on costs – Local Commissioners	\$16,039	Travel	\$90,811
Other employment costs	\$13,122	General operating	\$100,735
Communications	\$3,019	Other expenses	\$14,650
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$944,496</b>

Quarter 45 disbursement of expenditure by category and percentage of total expenditure.



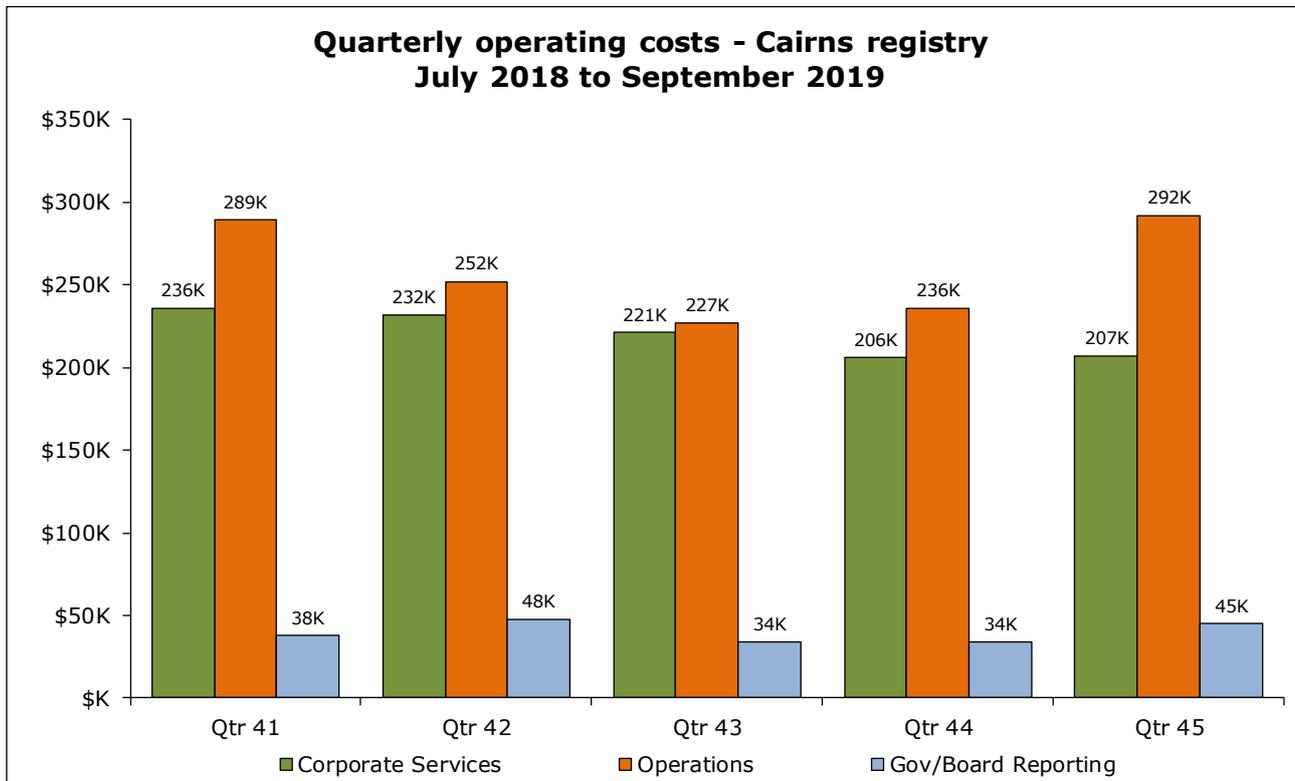
**Graph 13:** FRC operating costs 1 July 2019 to 30 September 2019.

Regional operational expenditure by location and quarter.



**Graph 14:** Operating costs by remote location 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2019.

Cairns Registry expenditure for quarter 45 compared to the previous four quarters.



**Graph 15:** Quarterly operating costs Cairns 1 July 2018 to 30 September 2019.

**APPENDIX A**



**SITTINGS CALENDAR 2019  
FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES COMMISSION  
1 July 2019 to 31 December 2019**



Week Beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Other
1 July						Cooktown Circuit
8 July						Doomadgee – Gulf Circuit
15 July					Public Holiday	19 Cairns Show Day 16, 18 ASC Meeting in Cairns Aurukun Cape B & Coen Cape A Circuit
22 July	Public Holiday	23	24	25 25	26	22 Mossman Show Day Estimates: Tuesday 23/7/2019 – Friday 26/7/2019
29 July		30 30	31	1		Estimates: Tuesday 30/7/2019 – Friday 1/8/2019
5 August		Public Holiday 6	7			6 Aurukun Day 9 Mount Isa Rodeo Day Cooktown Circuit
12 August		13	14	15		Aurukun Cape B Circuit Doomadgee – Gulf Circuit
19 August		20	21	22 22	Public Holiday	23 Doomadgee Day 20 ASC Meeting
26 August		27	28	29		
2 September		3	4	5		Cooktown Circuit Doomadgee – Gulf Circuit
9 September		10 10	11	12		Aurukun Cape B Circuit
16 September	16	17 17		19 19		17 ASC Meeting
23 September						
30 September						
7 October	Public Holiday	8	9	10		7 Queen's Birthday Cooktown Circuit Doomadgee – Gulf Circuit
14 October		15	16	17 17	18	17 ASC Meeting in Cairns Aurukun Cape B & Coen Cape A Circuit
21 October		22 22	23	24		
28 October		29	30	31 ½ day 31		
4 November		5	6	7		Cooktown Circuit
11 November		12 12		14 14		Aurukun Cape B & Coen Cape A Circuit Doomadgee – Gulf Circuit

**SITTINGS CALENDAR 2019**  
**FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES COMMISSION**  
**1 July 2019 to 31 December 2019**

Week Beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Other
18 November	18		20	21		19 ASC Meeting
25 November		26	27	28		
2 December		3	4	5		CYAAA schools finish 6/12/2019 Cooktown Circuit
9 December		10	11	12		10 ASC Meeting Aurukun, Doomadgee and Mossman schools finish 12/12/19 Aurukun Cape Circuit Doomadgee – Gulf Circuit
16 December						
23 December			Public Holiday	Public Holiday		25 Christmas Day, 26 Boxing Day 27 Office closed for XMAS
30 December			Public Holiday			1 Mew Year's Day 30, 31 Office closed for XMAS

**LEGEND**

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

OFFICE	CONTACT NAME	Phone	Mobile	Facsimile
Cairns – Commissioner	Ms Tammy Williams	4081 8413	0447 739 137	4041 0974
Cairns – Registrar	Ms Maxine McLeod	4081 8412	0409 461 624	4041 0974
Cairns – Executive Officer (Finance)	Ms Tracey Patterson	4081 8411	0429 495 353	4041 0974
Cairns – Client Manager (Tue, Wed, alternative Thurs)	Ms Camille Banks	4081 8410	0438 195 342	4041 0974
Cairns – Acting Client Manager (Mon, Fri, alternative Thurs)	Ms Anne Crampton	4081 8410	0419 647 948	4041 0974
Aurukun Local Coordinator	Mr Bryce Coxall	4060 6185	0428 985 106	4041 0974
Acting Coen Local Coordinator	Ms Josephine Pinder		0417 798 392	4041 0974
Doomadgee Local Coordinator	Mr Robbie Hazeldine	4745 8111	0418 666 204	4041 0974
Acting Hope Vale Local Coordinator (Wed/Thurs)	Mr Brenden Joinbee	4060 9153	0408 482 026	4041 0974
Acting Mossman Gorge Local Coordinator	Ms Josephine Pinder		0417 798 392	4041 0974