

Community Affairs

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2013 - 2014, 26 February 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000048

OUTCOME: 0 - Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Building Lease Costs

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Ludwig Joe

Question:

1. What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department since September 7, 2013?
 - a) Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased. Please detail by:
 - i. Date the lease agreement is active from.
 - ii. Date the lease agreement ends.
 - iii. Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?
 - iv. Location of the building (City and state).
 - v. Cost of the lease.
 - vi. Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department.
 - b) Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed since September 7, 2013. Please detail by:
 - i. Date from which the lease agreement was active.
 - ii. Date the lease agreement ended.
 - iii. Why was the lease not renewed?
 - iv. Location of the building (City and state).
 - v. Cost of the lease.
 - vi. Why the building was necessary for the operations of the agency / department.
 - c) Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months. Please detail by:
 - i. Date the lease agreement is expected to become active.
 - ii. Date the lease agreement is expected to end.
 - iii. Expected location of the building (City and state).
 - iv. Expected cost of the lease.
2. Has this cost been allocated into the budget?
 - a). Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department.
 - b) For each building owned or leased by the department:
 - i. What is the current occupancy rate for the building?
 - ii. If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining being used for?

Answer:

Division/ Agency	1. September 7, 2013 – February 28, 2014	a) i - vi	b) i - vi	c) i - iv	2.	a)	b)
Department of Health (including the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator, National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme, Therapeutic Goods Administration)	\$23,317,630 (Costs include rent and outgoings)	To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.	Nil	Property strategy for next 12 months is being reviewed due to the Budget outcomes and agency changes.	Yes	The department/agency is required to administer, monitor and oversee the many health services provided to the Australian public. Accordingly staff are located in office space in Canberra and major capital cities to ensure this work can be effectively managed through close working relationships with stakeholders and funding recipients.	To attempt to provide this level of detail would involve an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.

