

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

**Cross Portfolio**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0001\_12

**Senator Abetz provided in writing.**

**Question**

**Workpoint Space**

1. For each portfolio department and agency office please list the occupied workpoint space allocated per person. 2. Does this adhere to the Government's Commonwealth Property Management Guidelines (the Guidelines)? Explain. I. If yes, please explain if any refurbishment was required to meet the Guidelines and what the costs were. a. What savings did each portfolio department and agency achieve by meeting the Guidelines? Please itemise each portfolio department and agency separately. b. How much of these savings has each portfolio department and agency kept? Please itemise each portfolio department and agency separately. II. If no, please give details why it does not, including whether an exemption has been received by the Finance Minister. a. What funding has been taken from each portfolio department and agency because they do not meet the Guidelines? Please itemise each portfolio department and agency separately. b. Are there plans to meet the Guidelines? Please explain.

**Answer**

Work point density as determined through the Australian Government Property Data Collection for March 2011 is as follows:

	<b>Usable Area M2</b>	<b>Occupied workpoints</b>	<b>Density rate</b>
DEEWR	165,755.74	5,559	29.82
Safe Work Australia	2,552.00	110	23.20
Australian Building Construction Commission	4,680.19	116	40.35
Fair Work Australia	10,634.00	282	37.71
Fair Work Ombudsman	23,331.00	980	23.81

As at March 2011 no agency complied with the Government's Commonwealth Property Management Guidelines density target of 16m2 per occupied work point.

No exemption from the density target and consequential savings has been sought or received from the Finance Minister.

The savings taken from each portfolio department and agency is tabled below:

	<b>2010-11 \$m</b>	<b>2011-12 \$m</b>	<b>2012-13 \$m</b>	<b>2013-14 \$m</b>
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (a)	-0.031	-2.449	-4.091	-4.697
Safe Work Australia	0	0	0	0
Australian Building Construction Commission	0	0	0	0
Fair Work Australia	0	-0.046	-0.191	-0.191
Fair Work Ombudsman	0	0	-0.045	-0.090

- a) DEEWR has a lease strategy in place to consolidate its national lease holdings from 21 buildings in 2007 to 8 buildings by the end of 2011 and review all state offices to improve the occupational density. The strategy assesses office accommodation needs between 2011 and 2013, and working within the current capital budget consolidates the department's operations in the most efficient combination of existing or available buildings.

The portfolio agencies have strategies in place to work towards achieving the density targets.