

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 27 FEBRUARY 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Land Costs

Question reference number: HS 87

Senator: Ludwig

Type of question: Written question

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 24 April 2014

Number of pages: 3

Question:

- a) How much land (if any) does the Department or agencies or authorities or Government corporation within each portfolio own or lease?
- b) Please list by each individual land holding, the size of the piece of land, the location of that piece of land and the latest valuation of that piece of land, where that land is owned or leased by the Department, or agency or authority or Government Corporation within that portfolio? (In regards to this question please ignore land upon which Australian Defence force bases are located. Non-Defence Force base land is to be included.)
- c) List the current assets, items or purse (buildings, facilities or other) on the land identified above.
 - 1) What is the current occupancy level and occupant of the items identified in (c)?
 - 2) What is the value of the items identified in (c)?
 - 3) What contractual or other arrangements are in place for the items identified in (c)?
- d) How many buildings (if any) does the Department or agencies or authorities or Government Corporation within each portfolio own or lease?
- e) Please list by each building owned, its name, the size of the building in terms of square metres, the location of that of that building and the latest valuation of that building, where that building is owned by the Department, or agency or authority or Government corporation within that portfolio? (In regards to this question please ignore buildings that are situated on Australian Defence force bases. Non-Defence Force base buildings are to be included.)
- f) In regards to any building identified in Q4, please also detail, the occupancy rate as expressed as a percentage of the building size. If occupancy is identified as less than 100%, for what is the remaining space used?

Answer:

- a) The department only has land which is owned or leased relating to staff housing. We generally lease buildings on land, with the land itself being the responsibility of the owner.

- b) Attachment A provides a list of land owned by the department which is used for staff housing. These residential properties are leased or owned (for the sole purpose of supporting the delivery of the department's business) in rural, remote and very remote Australia.
- c) See answer to (b) above.
- d) to f) To provide a more detailed answer to address all of the issues raised in these questions would require extensive research and be an unreasonable diversion of resources.