

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Cross Portfolio

Department of Education Question No. ED0169_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Dept & all agencies: building leases

What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department since Additional Estimates in February, 2014? 1 Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased. Please detail by: a) Date the lease agreement is active from. b) Date the lease agreement ends. c) Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not? d) Location of the building (City and state). e) Cost of the lease. f) Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department. 2 Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed since Additional Estimates in February, 2014. Please detail by: a) Date from which the lease agreement was active. b) Date the lease agreement ended. c) Why was the lease not renewed? d) Location of the building (City and state). e) Cost of the lease. f) Why the building was necessary for the operations of the agency / department. 3 Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months. Please detail by: a) Date the lease agreement is expected to become active. b) Date the lease agreement is expected to end. c) Expected location of the building (City and state). d) Expected cost of the lease. e) Has this cost been allocated into the budget? f) Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department. 4 For each building owned or leased by the department: a) What is the current occupancy rate for the building? b) If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining being used for.

Answer

Department

Arrangements between the Department of Education and the Departments of Employment, Social Services and Prime Minister and Cabinet to settle accommodation for their employees, following the Machinery of Government changes are being finalised. Accordingly, it is not possible to attribute building lease costs to the Department of Education at this stage.

Please refer to ED0333_14 for details of leases held by the former DEEWR and its agencies. Since Additional Estimates in February 2014, the leases over Hastings and Victoria Streets, Thursday Island and 516 Ruthven Street, Toowoomba have expired and were not renewed.

Agency

Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority

What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency since Additional Estimates in February, 2014?	\$273,192.00
1) Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased.	
Sydney Office	
1a) Date the lease agreement is active from.	1 Nov 2009
1b) Date the lease agreement ends.	31 July 2016
1c) Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?	ACARA will consider renewing the lease, however, it is too early to assess whether it will be appropriate to renew it. This assessment will consider value for money and the ongoing needs of the organisation.
1d) Location of the building (City and state).	Level 10, 255 Pitt St Sydney
1e) Cost of the lease	\$72,780.00 / month, from February to date the cost has been \$218,340
1f) Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	This is ACARA's main office, and houses staff responsible for curriculum, assessment, reporting and corporate functions.
Melbourne Business Centre	
2a) Date the lease agreement is active from	12 July 2012
2b) Date the lease agreement ends.	11 July 2014
2c) Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?	No, as alternative premises have been found to achieve cost savings
2d) Location of the building (City and state).	Level 9 440 Collins St Melbourne
2e) Cost of the lease	\$4,528.70/month, from February to date the cost has been \$13,584
2f) Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	This office houses a number of ACARA curriculum staff.
Melbourne Level 8 440 Collins St	
2a) Date the lease agreement is active from	24 July 2013
2b) Date the lease agreement ends.	Ongoing
2c) Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?	Yes
2d) Location of the building (City and state).	Level 8 440 Collins St Melbourne
2e) Cost of the lease	\$1925/month, from February to date the cost has been \$5775
2f) Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	This office houses a number of ACARA curriculum staff.
Perth Office	
2a) Date the lease agreement is active from	17 June 2013
2b) Date the lease agreement ends.	31 July 2016
2c) Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?	Yes
2d) Location of the building (City and state).	Level 12 68 St Georges Terrace, Perth
2e) Cost of the lease	\$11,831/month, from February to date the cost has been \$35,493
2f) Why the building is necessary for the	This office houses a number of ACARA

operations of the agency / department	assessment and reporting staff, primarily involved in test development.
3) Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months.	Part floor of level 8 440 Collins St Melbourne
3a) Date the lease is expected to become active	July 14 2014
3b) Date the lease agreement is expected to end.	Ongoing
3c) Expected location of the building (City and state).	Melbourne Victoria
3d) Expected cost of the lease.	\$1925 per month
3e) Has this cost been allocated into the budget	Yes
3f) Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	This office houses a number of ACARA assessment and reporting staff
4a) For each building owned or leased by the department what is the current occupancy rate for the floor?	Sydney – 100% Melbourne Business Centre - 5% Melbourne Level 8 440 Collins – 5% Perth – 100%
4b). If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining is being used for	ACARA leases their office space from larger agencies and serviced offices in Melbourne

Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership

\$178,951.78 (including GST)

1)

	Current leases start dates	Current lease end dates	Is the lease expected to be renewed?	Current lease locations	Current lease costs	Reason for current leases
Melbourne	15 April 2013	14 April 2018	Yes, if AITSL's funding continues.	Level 8 440 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000	\$594,994.40 per annum with CPI increments	This is AITSL's corporate premises
Canberra	28 August 2013	27 August 2015	Yes	Lyons Education Centre North Block, Ground Floor 67 Launceston Street, Lyons ACT 2606	\$7,656.79 per annum in 2013/14 Note: to be reviewed 1 July 2014.	Assessment for Migration function is performed

2) Nil

3) No additional buildings will be leased by AITSL in the next 12 months

4a) Occupancy:

- Melbourne: 89.65%
AITSL negotiated an advantageous lease for the whole floor. 17 desks are sublet and AITSL is actively seeking to sublet a further 4 workstations. The remaining 5 desks are used for short term positions within the project teams.
 - Canberra: 100%
- 4b) If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining is being used for?
- Melbourne: of 87 desks (78 workstations and 9 offices):
 - AITSL subleased 4 workstations to Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority from 1 August 2013 @ \$1,925 per month
 - AITSL subleased 12 workstations and 1 office to the National Schools Interoperability Program from 7 April 2014 @ \$3,300 per month
 - 8 workstations and 1 office is used by short term project staff and allow for fluctuations in staff numbers
 - Canberra: Not Applicable

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

\$9,750

1a) 14/11/2013

1b) 14/11/2014

1c) Yes

1d) Canberra, ACT

1e) \$39,000 per annum

1f) Insufficient space for all staff in the main (owned) AIATSIS building.

2) Nil

3) One only – Limestone Cottage.

3a) 14/11/2014

3b) 14/11/2015

3c) Canberra, ACT

3d) \$39,000 per annum

3e) Yes

3f) Insufficient space for all staff in the main (owned) AIATSIS building.

4a) AIATSIS (main building) = 100%. Limestone Cottage= 100%

4b) N/A

Australian Research Council

\$442,742.82

1a) 24/09/2010

1b) 23/09/2025

1c) Not determined at this stage

1d) Canberra, ACT

1e) \$32,407,626

1f) To deliver Policy and Programs

2) Nil

3) Nil Response

4a) 78%

4b) Contingency plan

Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency

1)

Building leased	Cost of lease 1 March to 31 May 2014	
	GST-exclusive \$	GST-inclusive \$
Suite 1401, 530 Collins St	234,389.88	257,828.87
Suite 1403, 530 Collins St	21,724.67	23,897.14
Brisbane Office	3,753.34	4,128.67
	259,867.89	285,854.68

1)

Suite 1401, 530 Collins St	a) Active from b) End date c) Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not? d) Location of the building (City and State) e) Cost of the lease f) Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	1 May 2012 30 April 2022 No, due to budget constraints and reduced number of staff, the lease will not be required beyond end of lease date Melbourne, Victoria See Q1A Office use
Suite 1403, 530 Collins St	a) Active from b) End date c) Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not? d) Location of the building (City and State) e) Cost of the lease f) Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	15 May 2013 14 May 2017 No, due to budget constraints and reduced number of staff, the lease will not be required beyond end of lease date Melbourne, Victoria See Q1A Office use

2)

Brisbane Office	a) Active from b) Ended date c) Why lease not renewed? d) Location of the building (City and State) e) Cost of the lease f) Why the building was necessary for the operations of the agency / department	11 June 2013 30 May 2014 Cessation of lease and space no longer required Brisbane, Queensland See Q1A Office use
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3) Nil

4)

Suite 1401, 530 Collins St	a) What is the current occupancy rate for the building?	65%
	b) If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining being used for.	Space is currently vacant and subleasing options are being pursued
Suite 1403, 530 Collins St	a) What is the current occupancy rate for the building?	68%
	b) If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining being used for.	Space is currently vacant and subleasing options are being pursued