

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

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

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EM0976_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Building Lease Costs

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

1. What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department?
2. 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.
3. Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed during the specified period. 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.
4. 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.
 - i. Has this cost been allocated into the budget?
 - e. Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department.
5. 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

1. Since June 2014 the total lease costs for the department were \$9,157,416.76.
2. See [Attachment A](#) – note that the lease on 27 O’Connell Street Gympie is not expected to be renewed as it is no longer a business requirement.

3. See Attachment A – these properties were no longer required for business operations.
4. The department does not expect to enter leases for new properties.
5. The department occupancy rate is around 80 per cent across its portfolio of properties. The department is continuing to rationalise space and seek subleasing opportunities where possible.