

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates 26 May-6 June 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: COAG Reform Council accommodation

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 190

Type of Question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

With reference to the department's decision in February 2014 to renew the lease for COAG Reform Council accommodation at a cost of \$549,000 in 2014-15, \$623,000 in 2015-16 and \$655,000 in 2016-17 weeks ahead of the announced abolition of the COAG Reform Council in the May 2014 Budget:

Has the department incurred any additional costs, including the cost of legal advice, in relation to sub-leasing of the accommodation?

Answer:

Please note the decision to renew the lease, as per the terms of the lease for taking up the extension option, was taken in November 2013 (see PM99).

No costs have been incurred to date. However, the Department has committed \$4,092 (GST inclusive) for the commercial marketing of the property to sub-lease the property.