

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Public Service Commission

Outcome/Program: Cross Portfolio

Topic: Building lease costs

Senator: Ludwig

Question reference number: 329

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 2

Question:

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

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Answer:

- 1.a. The total cost of building leases since 1 March 2014 to 31 May 2014 is estimated to be \$698,750 including GST.

The Australian Public Service Commission also has staff co-located with other Australian Government agencies in three locations (Brisbane, Melbourne and Perth). The co-location cost for this period is estimated to be \$57,370 excluding GST (no GST is charged by the agencies).

Office	Lease start date	Lease end date	Lease to be renewed?	Cost of lease including GST	Location	Why the building is necessary
Levels 5&6, 16 Furzer Street, Phillip, ACT	1/03/2007	1/03/2022	No decision made to date.	\$500,457	Phillip, ACT	Head office for the Australian Public Service Commission
Level 22, 580 George Street, Sydney, NSW	1/08/2007	1/08/2017	No decision made to date.	\$134,648	Sydney, NSW	The APSC's Sydney office administers Casework and Enquiries and APS Recruitment and Selection Services.
Level 1, 12 Moore Street, Civic, ACT	1/04/2011	31/03/2016	No decision made to date.	\$63,644	Civic, ACT	Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal meeting and hearing rooms.

- b. There are no building leases which have not been renewed since February 2014.
c. No buildings are expected to be leased in the next 12 months.
d. Current occupancy rate of the building:

Office	Occupancy rate	Reason
Levels 5&6, 16 Furzer Street, Phillip, ACT	75%	Due to staff staffing numbers reducing in line with reducing budgets. The remaining 25% is the Woden Training Centre and storage.
Level 22, 580 George Street, Sydney, NSW	96%	The remaining 4% is meeting areas and storage.
Level 1, 12 Moore Street, Civic, ACT	N/A	Used for Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal meeting and hearing rooms.

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