

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-16

Finance Portfolio
20 October 2015

Department/Agency: Department of Finance
Outcome/Program: 2/2.3
Topic: Amount and cost of vacant office space – Operation Tetris

Senator: Gallagher
Question reference number: F21
Type of question: Hansard Proof, F&PA Committee, Pages 68 and 110, 20 October 2015
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Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator GALLAGHER: Is there some way that you could put the moves down, if that is easy to do, with the space that has been allocated or allocated, as a question on notice?

Mr Edge: We can do that on notice—yes, absolutely.

...

Senator GALLAGHER: In terms of Operation Tetris and the vacant office space here in Canberra, do you have a dollar figure for that—on the cost of the vacant office space? ...

Mr Edge: I think we would have to take that on notice in terms of—there are a couple of different ways we can look at this—

Senator GALLAGHER: Do you have an average square metre—

Mr Edge: We can identify the rental costs of vacant space, which is I think what you are getting at.

Ms Halton: We did do a 'point in time' a while ago, and I think that is probably where one of the first figures came from. But it has moved on. So maybe the better thing to do is to give you where we are now. But we will have to take that on notice.

Answer:

Location	Entity occupying previous surplus office space in non-Government owned buildings	Floor Area*
50 Marcus Clarke Street	Australian Electoral Commission Digital Transformation Office	6,350 m ²
Garema Court	Shared Services Centre	10,873 m ²
Level 7, Nishi Building	Safe Work Australia	1,760 m ²
TOTAL		18,983 m²

* Previously vacant space now occupied or will be occupied by 31 December 2015.

As at 1 July 2015 the average rental cost was \$483 per square metre in the non-Government owned buildings where surplus office space was filled.