

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

**Cross Portfolio**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0333\_14**

**Senator Ludwig provided in writing.**

**Question**

***Dept/Ag - Building Lease Costs***

1. What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department since September 7, 2013? 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 since September 7, 2013. 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. e. Has this cost been allocated into the budget? f. 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**

Department

Arrangements between the Department of Education, and the Departments of Employment, Social Services and the Prime Minister and Cabinet to settle accommodation for their employees, following 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 previous question [EW0037\\_14](#) for details of leases held by the former DEEWR and its agencies.

Portfolio agencies have provided the following responses to the question:

**Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership**

1. What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department since September 7, 2013 (to 28 February 2014)?	\$38,751.75
2. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased.	
<b>Melbourne</b>	
2a.Date the lease agreement is active from	15 April 2013
2b.Date the lease agreement ends.	14 April 2018
2c.Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?	Yes, if AITSL's funding continues.
2d.Location of the building (City and state).	Level 8, 440 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000
2e.Cost of the lease	\$594,994.40 per annum with CPI increments
2f.Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	This is AITSL's corporate premises (AITSL was established to provide national leadership for Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments in promoting excellence in teaching and school leadership)
3. Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed since September 7, 2013. Please detail by:	
3a.Date from which the lease agreement was active	Level 7: 20 October 2010 Level 9: various monthly agreements between 30 June 2011 and 30 June 2013
3b.Date the lease agreement ended	30 June 2013
3c.Why was the lease not renewed?	Additional space was required due to expanded work program and staff.  Negotiated an advantageous lease for a whole floor in the same building.
3d.Location of the building (city and state)	Level 7, 440 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000  Level 9, 440 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000
3e.Cost of the lease	2012/13 Level 7: \$194,252.64 per annum Level 9: \$158,947.00 per annum  2011/12 Level 7: \$184,968.00 per annum  Level 9: \$3,385.01 per annum
3f.Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	As above

4. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months.	No additional buildings will be leased by AITSL in the next 12 months
5. For each floor owned or leased by the department:	
5a. What is the current occupancy rate for the floor?	88.5% AITSL negotiated an advantageous lease for the whole floor. 15 workstations are sublet and AITSL is actively seeking to sublet a further 2 workstations. The remaining 10 workstations are used for short term positions within the project teams.
5b. If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining is being used for	Melbourne: of 87 work stations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AITSL subleased 4 workstations to Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority from 1 August 2013 @ \$1,925 per month</li> <li>• AITSL subleased 11 workstations to the National Schools Interoperability Program from 7 April 2014 @ \$3,300 per month</li> <li>• 10 workstations are used by short term project staff and allow for fluctuations in staff numbers</li> </ul>

2. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased.	
<b>Canberra</b>	
2a.Date the lease agreement is active from	28 August 2013
2b.Date the lease agreement ends.	27 August 2015
2c.Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?	Yes
2d.Location of the building (City and state).	Lyons Education Centre North Block, Ground Floor 67 Launceston Street, Lyons ACT 2606
2e.Cost of the lease	\$7,656.78 per annum in 2013/14 Note: to be reviewed 1 July 2014.
2f.Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	Assessment for Migration function is performed
3. Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed since September 7, 2013. Please detail by:	
3a.Date from which the lease agreement was active	1 July 2010
3b.Date the lease agreement ended	30 June 2013
3c.Why was the lease not renewed?	Negotiated a smaller, more advantageous lease with the Education and Training office.
3d.Location of the building (city and state)	Suite 16, 71 Leichhardt St, Kingston ACT 2601
3e.Cost of the lease	\$183,439.32 per annum

3f. Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	As above
4. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months.	No additional buildings will be leased by AITSL in the next 12 months
5. For each floor owned or leased by the department:	
5a. What is the current occupancy rate for the floor?	100%
5b. If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining is being used for	Not Applicable

### **Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies**

1. What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department since September 7, 2013?	\$6,500
2. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased.	One building leased - Limestone Cottage, Acton ACT
2a. Date the lease agreement is active from	14th November 2013
2b. Date the lease agreement ends.	14th November 2014
2c. Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?	Yes
2d. Location of the building (City and state).	Canberra , ACT
2e. Cost of the lease	\$39,000 per annum
2f. Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	Insufficient space for all staff in the main (owned) AIATSIS building.
3. Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed since September 7, 2013.	Nil
4. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months.	Nil - renewal of Limestone cottage only, as above.
5. For each floor owned or leased by the department:	
5a. What is the current occupancy rate for the floor?	AIATSIS = 100%. Limestone Cottage = 100%
5b. If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining is being used for	Not Applicable

## Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority

1. What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department since September 7, 2013?	\$546,388.22
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2. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased.	
<b>Sydney Office</b>	
2a.Date the lease agreement is active from	1 Nov 2009
2b.Date the lease agreement ends.	31 July 2016
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.
2d.Location of the building (City and state).	Level 10, 255 Pitt St Sydney
2e.Cost of the lease	\$72,780.00/month, \$436,680 from Sept 2013 to 28 Feb 2014
2f.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.

2. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased.	
<b>Melbourne Business Centre</b>	
2a.Date the lease agreement is active from	12 July 2012
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 9 440 Collins St Melbourne
2e.Cost of the lease	\$4,528.70/month, \$27,172.22 from Sept 2013 to 28 Feb 2014
2f.Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	This office houses a number of ACARA assessment and reporting staff.

2. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased.	
<b>Melbourne Level 8 440 Collins St</b>	
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, \$11,550 from Sept 2013 to 28 Feb 2014
2f.Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	This office houses a number of ACARA curriculum staff.

2. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased.	
<b>Perth Office</b>	
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, \$70,986 from Sept 2013 to 28 Feb 2014
2f.Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	This office houses a number of ACARA assessment and reporting staff, primarily involved in test development.

3. Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed since September 7, 2013.	Nil
4. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months.	Nil
5. For each floor owned or leased by the department:	
5a. What is the current occupancy rate for the floor?	100%
5b. If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining is being used for	Nil

## Australian Research Council

1. What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department since September 7, 2013?	\$813,922.97
2. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased.	
2a.Date the lease agreement is active from	24/09/2010
2b.Date the lease agreement ends.	23/09/2025
2c.Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?	Yes
2d.Location of the building (City and state).	Canberra, ACT
2e.Cost of the lease	\$32,407,626.00
2f.Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	To deliver policy and programs
3. Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed since September 7, 2013.	Nil
4. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months.	Nil
5. For each floor owned or leased by the department:	Not Applicable

## Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency

1. What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department since September 7, 2013?	<b>Building leased</b>	<b>Cost of lease To 28 February 2014</b>	
		<b>GST-exclusive \$</b>	<b>GST-inclusive \$</b>
	Suite 1401, 530 Collins St	462,231.48	508,454.63
	Suite 1403, 530 Collins St	43,114.38	47,425.82
	Brisbane Office	10,350.00	11,385.00
		<b>515,695.86</b>	<b>567,265.45</b>

2. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased.	
<b>Suite 1401, 530 Collins St</b>	
2a.Date the lease agreement is active from	1 May 2012
2b.Date the lease agreement ends.	30 April 2022
Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?	Yes
2d.Location of the building (City and state).	Melbourne, Victoria
2e.Cost of the lease	See Q1
2f.Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	Office use
3. Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed since September 7, 2013.	Nil
4. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months.	Nil
5. For each floor owned or leased by the department:	
5a. What is the current occupancy rate for the floor?	72.6%
5b. If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining is being used for	vacant

2. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased.	
<b>Suite 1403, 530 Collins St</b>	
2a.Date the lease agreement is active from	15 May 2013
2b.Date the lease agreement ends.	14 May 2017
Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?	No, due to budget constraints and reduced number of staff, the lease will not be required beyond end of lease date
2d.Location of the building (City and state).	Melbourne, Victoria
2e.Cost of the lease	See Q1
2f.Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	Office use
3. Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed since September 7, 2013.	Nil
4. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months.	Nil
5. For each floor owned or leased by the department:	
5a. What is the current occupancy rate for the floor?	72.7%
5b. If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining is being used for	vacant

2. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is currently leased.	
<b>Brisbane Office</b>	
2a.Date the lease agreement is active from	11 June 2013
2b.Date the lease agreement ends.	30 May 2014
Is the lease expected to be renewed? If not, why not?	No, will no longer be required
2d.Location of the building (City and state).	Brisbane, Queensland
2e.Cost of the lease	See Q1
2f.Why the building is necessary for the operations of the agency / department	Working office for a Brisbane based Commissioner
3. Please provide a detailed list of each building that had a lease that was not renewed since September 7, 2013.	Nil
4. Please provide a detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months.	Nil
5. For each floor owned or leased by the department:	
5a. What is the current occupancy rate for the floor?	100%
5b. If the rate is less than 100%, detail what the remaining is being used for	Not Applicable