

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

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian National Audit Office

Outcome/Program:

Topic: Building lease costs

Senator: Ludwig

Question reference number: 206

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 2

Question:

What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department since September 7, 2013?

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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:

Q1. The ANAO has one current accommodation lease in the ACT.

- a. The lease commenced on 23 September 2008.
- b. The lease expires on 22 September 2018.
- c. At this stage no decision has been made on future leasing options. The ANAO plans to explore various alternatives prior to lease expiry and will ensure any new lease arrangement is fit for purpose and represents value for money for the Commonwealth.
- d. Barton, ACT
- e. The ANAO's current lease cost is \$319,332 per month. Rent is increased each September at a rate commensurate with CPI.
- f. The current accommodation is used for delivery of both the assurance and performance audit programmes.

Q2. Nil. Refer response to Q1.

Q3. The ANAO does not plan to enter any lease arrangements in the next 12 months.

Q4. The ANAO subleases 5.58% of surplus space on the ground floor. The rental income derived from the sublease is used to offset a portion of the rent expense outlined in Question 1. The remainder of the building is fully utilised by ANAO staff.