

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Agency: ASQA

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000747

Senator Ludwig, Joe provided in writing

ASQA: Building Lease Costs

Question

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department?
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 during the specified period. 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.
 - i. Has this cost been allocated into the budget?
 - (e) 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

The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) has provided the following response:

1. For the period 14 September 2015 to 31 January 2016, the cost of ASQA's leases was \$922,001.
2. The details of ASQA's leases are as follows:
 - a. The lease agreements for each office were active from the dates listed below:
 - Brisbane Level 7 – 1 November 2011
 - Brisbane Level 8 – 1 October 2012
 - Perth – 1 April 2011

- Sydney – 25 September 2011
 - Hobart – 1 November 2012
 - Canberra – 1 July 2011
 - Adelaide – 1/July 2014
 - Melbourne – 1/November 2010
 - Darwin – 1 September 2012 (hosting arrangement for 3 workstations)
 - Toowoomba – 1 July 2014 (hosting arrangement for one workstation)
- b. The lease agreements for each office ends at the dates listed below:
- Brisbane Level 7 – 30 September 2016
 - Brisbane Level 8 – 30 September 2016
 - Perth – 31 March 2016
 - Sydney – 31 December 2015
 - Hobart – 31 October 2016
 - Canberra – 30 June 2019
 - Adelaide – 30 June 2019
 - Melbourne – 29 February 2016
 - Darwin – 30 June 2016 (three workstations)
 - Toowoomba – 30 June 2016 (one workstation)
- c. All of the above leases are expected to be renewed.
- d. The location of the buildings are as follows:
- Brisbane - 215 Adelaide St Lvl 7 & 8
 - Perth - 250 St Georges Terrace Lvl 11
 - Sydney - 255 Elizabeth St Lvl 10
 - Hobart - 188 Collins St Lvl 11
 - Canberra - 64 Northbourne Ave Lvl 3
 - Adelaide - 115 Grenfell St Lvl 13
 - Melbourne, - 595 Collins St Lvl 6
 - Darwin - 39-41 Woods Street Lvl 2 (three workstations)
 - Toowoomba (one workstation)
- e. The cost of the lease for the period 14 September 2015 to 31 January 2016 is:
- Brisbane - \$297,310
 - Perth - \$44,688
 - Sydney - \$242,315
 - Hobart - \$20,355
 - Canberra - \$69,696
 - Adelaide - \$26,187
 - Melbourne - \$201,982
 - Darwin - \$12,618
 - Toowoomba - \$6847
- f. Maintaining offices in each State / Territory is necessary as part of the arrangements established for the transition to National VET regulation.
3. N/A
4. Detailed list of each building that is expected to be leased in the next 12 months:
- a. Date the lease agreement is expected to become active:
- Brisbane Level 7 – 30 September 2016
 - Brisbane Level 8 – 30 September 2016
 - Perth – 31 March 2016
 - Sydney – 31 December 2015
 - Hobart – 31 October 2016
 - Melbourne – 29 February 2016
 - Darwin – 30 June 2016 (three workstations)
 - Toowoomba – 30 June 2016 (one workstation)

- b. Date the lease agreement is expected to become end:
- Brisbane Level 7 – 30 September 2024
 - Brisbane Level 8 – 30 September 2024
 - Perth – 31 March 2021
 - Sydney – 31 December 2021
 - Hobart – 31 October 2021
 - Melbourne – 29 February 2021
 - Darwin – 30 June 2021 (three workstations)
 - Toowoomba – 30 June 2021 (one workstation)
- c. Expected locations of the buildings:
- Brisbane - 215 Adelaide St Lvl 7 & 8
 - Perth - 250 St Georges Tce Lvl 11
 - Sydney - 255 Elizabeth St Lvl 10
 - Hobart - 188 Collins St Lvl 11
 - Melbourne, - 595 Collins St Lvl 6
 - Darwin - 39-41 Woods Street Lvl 2 (three workstations)
 - Toowoomba (one workstation)
- d. Expected cost of the lease:
- Brisbane - \$868,646 p/a
 - Perth - \$164,302 p/a
 - Sydney - \$547,054 p/a
 - Hobart - \$64,545 p/a
 - Melbourne - \$851,818 p/a
 - Darwin - \$55,523 p/a (three workstations)
 - Toowoomba - \$13,694 p/a (one workstation)
- i. Yes this cost has been allocated into the budget.
- e. Maintaining offices in each State / Territory is necessary as part of the arrangements established for the transition to National VET regulation.
5. ASQA does not have access to the building occupancy rate.