

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Agency - Fair Work Commission

Department of Employment Question No. EM0230_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

FWC - Building lease costs

What has been the total cost of building leases for the agency / department since Additional Estimates in February, 2014?

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 Additional Estimates in February, 2014. 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

1(a)-(f) See table below.

| Address | Landlord | Status | Start date Lease | Date Lease Expires | Total Period 1 Feb to 31 May |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 11 Exhibition Street, Melbourne | Private | Active ⁽³⁾ | 1/06/2005 | 30/06/2018 | |
| Sydney | Private | Active ⁽³⁾ | 1/07/2012 | 30/06/2022 | |
| Adelaide | Private | Active | 1/07/2008 | 31/12/2020 | |
| Perth | Private | Active ⁽²⁾ | 1/02/2010 | 31/01/2015 | |
| Darwin | Private | Active | 1/01/2011 | 1/01/2016 | |
| Canberra | Private | Active | 1/06/2013 | 31/05/2018 | |
| Hobart | Commonwealth Law Courts | Active | Yearly MOU | | |
| Brisbane | Private | Active | 4/04/2012 | 3/04/2017 | |
| Total | | | | | 4.24 Million |

The buildings are necessary for the operation of the Fair Work Commission to enable it to fulfil its functions as Australia's national workplace relations tribunal. Accommodation is used for hearings, conferences, Members' Chambers, and staff office accommodation.

2. Nil.
3. The Fair Work Commission expects to have finalised the Perth lease in the next month.
4. The Commission does not own or lease any entire buildings.