

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016**

**Outcome: Cross Portfolio - Corporate**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000912**

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing.

***MoG: movement of early childhood***

**Question**

In relation to the movement of early childhood functions from the Department of Education to the Department of Social Services and back again:

a) Why was early childhood originally moved out of the Department of Education and into Social Services?

b) Why was early childhood moved back into the Department of Education?

c) What was the total cost of moving early childhood from the Department of Education into the Department of Social Services?

d) What was the total cost of moving early childhood from the Department of Social Service back to the Department of Education?

e) If the justification for moving child care policy to DSS was to “get the focus of government particularly on to jobs and families”, does that mean that is no longer the government’s focus?

f) In February the Department gave evidence that:

“the substance of the changes that occurred with the machinery of government was in relation to the family support around child care, which is going back to how historically it has been more closely administered by the social services portfolio.”

If that was the case in February, what has changed?

g) How many staff moved to the Department of Social Services as a result of the previous MoG?

h) When was the transfer of staff earlier this year completed? That is, when did the last of the staff physically relocate to DSS?

i) How many of those staff will come back into DoE? When will the move commence and how long will it take?

j) Where had those staff previously been located when they were last in DoE? What had happened to those premises in the intervening period – had the Department of Education disposed of surplus office space?

k) Will early childhood staff move back to the same DoE location? If not, where will they be accommodated? Will new premises need to be leased?

l) Will those staff require new business cards or can they use their old ones?

m) How many days did staff spend in their new Canberra DSS accommodation before the Government announced they would be moved back to DoE?

n) In relation to staff movements outside Canberra:

i. In how many locations did staff move from DoE to DSS? What were those locations? How many staff were involved in each of those moves and what was the total cost of each move, including any break-lease fees?

ii. Was any office space left empty after staff moved from DoE to DSS? Where is this located? How many square metres in each location? What was the cost of leasing the empty office space?

iii. In how many locations will staff have to move from DSS to DoE? What are those locations? How many staff will be involved in each move? What is the expected cost of each move? Will any new property need to be leased - what will the cost of that be in each location?

iv. Are any staff going to move back into the same DoE accommodation they vacated to move to DSS? If so, in which locations will this occur?  
NOTE – Please liaise with the Department of Social Services to ensure figures reflect the total costs across both agencies.

### **Answer**

- a) These are decisions of Government.
- b) These are decisions of Government.
- c) The Department of Education and Training does not have the details of the cost of relocating early childhood and corporate staff to the DSS. This question should be directed to that department.
- d) The cost of relocating Early Childhood to Education was \$34,664.
- e) No
- f) refer to (a) above
- g) 409
- h) The move for National Office staff commenced on Friday 27 March 2015. The last State Office move was completed on 4 May 2015.
- i) 429 staff returned to the department. The move for National Office staff commenced on Friday 6 November 2015 and was completed on Saturday 7 November 2015. With the exception of some staff located in Townsville, State based staff have not moved.
- j) Refer Attachment A – The department transferred some surplus leases to DSS as part of settling property arrangements during the December 2014 MoG.
- k) Returning National Office staff will be located in Civic. In Sydney, Brisbane and Alice Springs, staff will be accommodated under hosting arrangements with DSS, the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Department of Health. No new leases will be required.
- l) New business cards will be required.
- m) 32 weeks
- n) Refer Attachment B

**List of office locations**

<b>City</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Status of Premises</b>
Canberra	50 Marcus Clarke St & 17 Moore St	Retained by Education
Sydney	255 Elizabeth Street	Retained by Education
Darwin	39-41 Woods Street	Transfer of Education's leasing responsibility to DSS
Alice Springs	36 Todd Mall	Transfer of Education's leasing responsibility to DSS
Brisbane	215 Adelaide Street	Transfer of Education's leasing responsibility to DSS
Adelaide	11 Waymouth Street	Transfer of Education's leasing responsibility to DSS
Hobart	188 Collins Street	Transfer of Education's leasing responsibility to DSS
Melbourne	414 La Trobe Street	Transfer of Education's leasing responsibility to DSS
Perth	250 St George Terrace	Retained by Education
Townsville	19 Stanley Street	Transfer of Education's leasing responsibility to DSS
Mackay	83 Greenfield Blvd	Transferred hosting responsibility to DSS

Staff outside Canberra relocated in the following locations:

<b>Department of Education and Training (Address ; 'From')</b>	<b>DSS (Address ; 'To')</b>	<b>Number of Staff Relocated</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>Break-Lease Fees</b>
<b>Sydney</b> -255 Elizabeth St	<b>Sydney</b> -260 Elizabeth St	33	DSS incurred costs, not Education and Training	Nil
<b>Darwin</b> -39-41 Woods St	<b>Darwin</b> -39-41 Woods St	10	DSS incurred costs, not Education and Training	Nil
<b>Townsville</b> -19 Stanley St	<b>Townsville</b> -235 Stanley St	5	DSS incurred costs, not Education and Training	Nil
<b>Brisbane</b> -215 Adelaide St	<b>Brisbane</b> -100 Creek St	18	DSS incurred costs, not Education and Training	Nil
<b>Adelaide</b> -11 Waymouth St	<b>Adelaide</b> -11 Waymouth St	18	DSS incurred costs, not Education and Training	Nil
<b>Alice Springs</b> - 36 Todd Mall	<b>Alice Springs</b> -Jock Nelson Building	3	DSS incurred costs, not Education and Training	Nil

The Department retained lease responsibility for the following property. When staff transferred this resulted in the empty office space.

<b>Department of Education and Training (Address)</b>	<b>Number of Staff Vacated</b>	<b>Location's Prodac Density Rating (ie, m2 per occupied workpoint)</b>	<b>Total square metres vacated by departing staff: (ie, number of staff vacated, x Location's Prodac Density Rating)</b>	<b>\$ p/m2 (per annum)</b>	<b>(Monthly) cost of leasing the empty office space</b>
<b>Sydney</b> -255 Elizabeth St	33	35.47 m2	1,170.51 m2	\$667 p/m2	\$65,061

Staff will relocate from the following premises

<b>DSS (Address ; 'From')</b>	<b>Department of Education and Training (Address ; 'To')</b>	<b>Number of staff to be relocated</b>	<b>Expected cost of each move: (\$150 per person, approx)</b>	<b>Will any new property need to be leased?</b>	<b>If new property needs to be leased, what is the cost in each new location?</b>
235 Stanley St, Townsville	19 Stanley St, Townsville	5	<b>\$750 Total</b> (5 x \$150)	No	N/A
11 Waymouth St, Adelaide	11 Waymouth St, Adelaide	15	<b>\$2250 Total</b> (15 x \$150)	No	N/A
595 Collins St, Melbourne	414 LaTrobe St, Melbourne	15	<b>\$4500 Total</b> (30 x \$150)	No	N/A
39-41 Woods St, Darwin	39-41 Woods St, Darwin	7	<b>\$1050 Total</b> (7 x \$150)	No	N/A

Staff moving back to the same accommodation

<b>Department of Education Address :</b>
19 Stanley St, Townsville
11 Waymouth St, Adelaide
414 LaTrobe St – Levels 8, 10, 11