

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Group 3

Question No. 7

Senator Seselja asked the following question at the hearing on 24 February 2014:

Senator SESELJA: I am interested in getting an update on the accommodation requirements of National Archives. I understand the current lease on the Tuggeranong facility you have is due to expire in 2017. Is that correct?

Mr Marsden: That is correct.

Senator SESELJA: What arrangements are being put in place in terms of either an expansion or extension of that lease or a new facility in that area?

Mr Marsden: Our intention is to look for a new facility in the ACT region, and we are currently in a tender process at the expression of interest stage to look at that. We are coordinating the timing of that so that we can consolidate our holdings into that new repository.

Senator SESELJA: You have the Mitchell facility as well. When does that expire?

Mr Marsden: Can I take that on notice?

Senator SESELJA: Sure. Is it around the same time or is it a longer lease?

Mr Marsden: It should be longer, but I will take it on notice rather than guess the answer.

Senator SESELJA: Remind me: roughly how many square metres does the Tuggeranong facility cover?

Mr Marsden: I can give it to you in shelf kilometres but not in square metres. I do not have that.

Senator SESELJA: Perhaps you can take that on notice. Is the intent to bring what is currently housed in the Mitchell facility and the Tuggeranong facility all into one or are we also talking about the other one, in Queen Victoria Terrace? What are you looking to consolidate into one?

Mr Marsden: It is the repository holding. We were basically looking to consolidate digital archive for repository holdings from Greenway, and we are being quite open with the Greenway landlord on that issue. The existing Mitchell site is currently out for tender at the moment, and we are looking at 75 shelf kilometres equivalent to basically refurbish. That could be at any other site. It could be at the existing Mitchell site or at any other site in the ACT. The new site will accommodate the bulk of the holdings, but not all holdings going forward.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The lease on the Mitchell facility expires on 30 June 2017.

The gross floor area of the Tuggeranong facility is 4,432m².