

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**

**Budget Estimates Hearings 2005-2006, 31 October 2005**

**Question: PM 73**

**Outcome 1**

**Topic: APEC 2007 Taskforce**

**Hansard Page: Direct on Notice:**

**(1) Senator Evans asked: How many staff are currently working in the APEC Taskforce; please indicate their classifications?**

**Answer:**

<b>Classification Breakdown</b>	<b>Actual Staff Nos.at 31/10/2005</b>
SES Band 2	1
SES Band 1	6
Executive Level 2	10
Executive Level 1	9
APS Level 6	8
APS Level 5	4
APS Level 4	2
APS Level 3	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>

**(2) What are the expected staff numbers in the taskforce through 2005-06 and 2006-07 in the lead up to the APEC meeting in 2007?**

**Answer:** Number of staff which has been budgeted for are:

- as at 30 June 2006 - 111
- as at 30 June 2007 - 228

**(3) In relation to the lease of premises in Sydney for the APEC Taskforce:**

**a) What is the annual cost of the lease?**

**Answer:** The table below summarises estimated costs for both leases

<b>1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006</b>	<b>1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007</b>	<b>1 July 2007 to 31 December 2007</b>	<b>Total Rent for Margaret Street, Sydney</b>
\$1,512,609.12	\$1,868,950.64	\$970,116.30	\$4,351,676.06

NB. All costs exclude GST and do not include outgoings.

\* Leasing arrangements terminate 31 December 2007.

**b) Where is the premises located?**

**Answer:** 60 Margaret Street, Sydney.

**c) What is the floor area leased?**

**Answer:** Levels 30 and 31 comprise a total of 2784 square metres and Level 28 is 1293 square metres for a total of 4077 square metres.

**d) How many people are currently located at the premises?**

**Answer:** As at the 9 November 2005 there were 41 people located in Margaret Street.

**e) How were these premises chosen? How many sites were considered?  
What were the other sites cheaper than the one chosen?**

**Answer:** Premises were sought in the Sydney CBD area. The Taskforce required one location with space available on consecutive floors and a short term lease. Initially negotiations were conducted to secure the required space at 70 Phillip Street, however a cheaper alternative site at 60 Margaret Street was identified. Information on lease availability and subsequent negotiations were conducted by United KFPW a current PM&C service provider. The building at 60 Margaret Street met all criteria and negotiations resulted in a lease for levels 30 and 31 beginning on 15 June 2005 expiring on 31 December 2007. An option for level 28 was also negotiated. No other sites that met the Taskforce criteria were cheaper.

**f) When did the lease commence?**

**Answer:** The lease of Levels 30 and 31 commenced on 15 June 2005. The option to lease level 28 has been exercised with the commencement date to be 1 January 2006.

**g) When did staff actually start using the premises?**

**Answer:** 1 August 2005.

(4) On page 29 of the Department's annual report it indicates that an equity injection of \$5.6 million is provided in 2005-06 for fit out and equipment for the Sydney offices of the APEC Taskforce.

a) Provide specific details on how this \$5.6 million will be spent.

Answer: The \$5.6m was broken down as follows for Budgeting purposes.

Capital Items	2005-06	Comment
Total IT	\$1,175,500	Personal computers, laptops, servers etc
Total Communication Equipment	\$447,401	Mobile GSM and portable radios and personal communication devices.
Total Office Accommodation	\$3,981,600	Includes office fit out, partitioning, TVs, white boards, conference telephones, shredders, projectors, video conf.
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$5,604,501</b>	

(5) What will happen with all of the equipment purchased post 2007 when the APEC meeting is over and the Taskforce is disbanded?

Answer: The distribution of assets by the Taskforce will be assessed at the conclusion of APEC 2007. This may involve selling some assets and returning the surplus funds to the budget or by transferring some to PM&C.