

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATION

**Question No. 14**

**Senator Trood asked the following question at the hearing on 25 May 2011:**

What explanation did the Office of National Assessments provide to ASIO as to why they were unable to proceed with their tenancy in the new ASIO building.

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

On 25 June 2008 the Office of National Assessment (ONA) provided ASIO the following reasons as to why ONA would no longer be proceeding with plans to be a sub-tenant in the ASIO new building:

- ONA had a critical space shortfall in their present location and required a more immediate solution.
  - The ASIO new building is scheduled for completion in late 2012.
  - ONA were exploring options with partner Agencies to be located in the same precinct.
- Funding pressures associated with the proposed new building indicated that an alternative solution would be more cost effective for ONA and the Commonwealth.
  - By withdrawing from the new building, ONA would not need to proceed with disruptive interim works to optimise current accommodation.