

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

Portfolio

Question No. 80

Senator Humphries asked the following question at the hearing on 30 May 2013:

Public Service efficiencies

1. Please provide details of the amended operational efficiencies your agency will make as per 2013-14 Budget Measure 'Public Service efficiencies' (see 2013-14 Budget Paper No 2 p108).

In addition, please provide the following detail:

2. Can you quantify the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates for savings achieved by implementing more efficient management structures, through a reduction in expenditure on staff across the Executive Level (EL) 1 and 2, and Senior Executive Service (SES) levels?
3. Can you quantify the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates for savings achieved by revising down the occupational density target for all new leases, buildings and major fit-outs undertaken by agencies from 16 square metres per occupied workpoint down to 14 square metres?

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

The following responses are current as at 30 May 2013.

Attorney-General's Department

- 1-2. For the Attorney-General's Department and each agency within the portfolio, the 2013-14 Budget Measure 'Public Service efficiencies' appearing in Budget Paper No 2 are cross portfolio savings measures initiated by the Department of Finance. As at the date of this response, the portfolio has not received advice from Finance of the portfolios' expected contribution to these savings measures and is therefore unable to provide any further details. Please refer to the Department of Finance and Deregulation's responses to Questions on Notice 10 and 75 for the Finance and Public Administration Committee.
3. The savings is \$3,000 per year to 2016-17

Administrative Appeals Tribunal

3. The Tribunal has yet to be advised by the Department of Finance and Deregulation of the quantum of savings required for the occupational density target reduction from 16 square metres to 14 square metres.

Australian Crime Commission

3. This information has not as yet been formally advised to Agencies but will be done so during the Mid Year Economic Fiscal Outlook / Additional Estimates (MYEFO/AEs) process. As the Agency has insufficient funds to refit the offices down to the new property

density standard, or to move offices and refit another office, it is anticipated that these are savings that the ACC will not be able to achieve. However, it is estimated that \$355,646 will be reduced from our appropriation due to the new standard across the forward estimates period, as follows:

2014–15	2015–16	2016–17	2017–18
-28,890	-86,671	-86,671	-153,414

Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI)

3. ACLEI occupies its current leased premises until July 2016. Any future lease arrangement and fit-out work undertaken will have regard to the occupational density target, ACLEI's specialist operating environment and any capital costs involved.

Australian Federal Police

3. The estimated savings for each year, over the forward estimates for savings, to be achieved by revising down the occupational density target for all new leases, buildings and major fit-outs for the AFP as advised by the Department of Finance and Deregulation is: \$55,011 in FY 2015-16 and \$517,346 from FY 2016-17.

Australian Government Solicitor

Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) is a government business enterprise operating on a commercial and competitive basis in providing legal and related services to government and its agencies. AGS does not receive any Budget or other appropriations and its employees are engaged outside of the Public Service Act 1999. The question is therefore not applicable to AGS.

Australian Human Rights Commission

3. The Commission's current property lease savings are \$138,674 per annum, applied from 2011-12 when the Commission's current property lease commenced.

The savings were identified at the time according to the occupational density target of 16 sqm per occupied work point, as set down in the current Commonwealth Property Guide - *FMG Property Management Planning Guidance No 18* (issue date January 2010). The Commission's fit out falls within the 16sqm density target.

Australian Institute of Criminology

3. The AIC does not have any new leases, buildings or major fit-outs.

Australian Law Reform Commission

3. This is NIL response for the ALRC. The ALRC's current lease is sharing premises with the Australian Government Solicitors Office until 1 October 2018.

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation

3. ASIO currently has plans to undertake fit-out changes to a State office to maximise working space. For security reasons, ASIO cannot comment on the details of these changes. ASIO does not plan to undertake any other major fit-out changes or uptake new leases over the forward estimates.

Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC)

AUSTRAC has yet to be advised by the Department of Finance and Deregulation on the estimated savings.

Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP)

3. Finance has advised of the following preliminary data for the CDPP:

	2013-14	2014-15
Deemed Savings	105,897	292,881

CrimTrac

3. Not applicable.

Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

3. As per advice from the Department of Finance and Deregulation, the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates will be achieved by revising down the occupational density target for all new leases, buildings and major fit-outs undertaken by ACBPS from 16 square metres per occupied workpoint down to 14 square metres is as follows:

2013-14	\$73,231
2014-15	\$243,426
2015-16	\$5,400
2016-17	\$51,984

Family Court of Australia

3. The court has no properties currently impacted by this savings measure.

Federal Circuit Court of Australia

3. The court has no properties currently impacted by this savings measure.

Federal Court of Australia

3. The Federal Court of Australia is accommodated in the Commonwealth Law Court buildings around Australia and these buildings are governed by the Commonwealths Special Purpose Property principles. In conjunction with the Department of Finance and Deregulation a survey of occupied tenancy areas is currently being undertaken within each building and until this exercise is completed the Court is unable to estimate the level of savings in relation to new occupational density targets.

High Court of Australia

3. Not applicable.

Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia

3. Nil.

National Native Title Tribunal

The National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) will not be providing a response to this question, as from 1 July 2012 the NNTT is no longer a Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 Agency, and is funded to carry out its functions as a sub-program of the Federal Court of Australia's appropriation. On 12 March 2013 the Courts and Tribunals Legislation Amendment (Administration) Act 2013 came into operation. On that day the Australian Public Service Commissioner signed a determination which transferred all staff employed by the Tribunal to the Federal Court of Australia under s.72 of the Public Service Act, but those staff are designated staff assisting the Tribunal under the Native Title Act.

Office of the Australian Information Commissioner

3. The OAIC's current property lease savings, relating to its Sydney office location, are \$97,172.00 applied from 2011–12 when the OAIC's current property lease commenced.

The savings were identified at that time according to the occupational density target of 16 sqm per occupied work point, as set down in the current Commonwealth Property Guide – FMG Property Management Planning Guidance No 18 (issue date January 2010). The OAIC's Sydney location fit out falls within the 16 sqm density target.

Office of Parliamentary Counsel

3. OPC has not been advised of any additional property savings for our agency over the forward estimate years.