

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, OFFICE SPACE, AREA AND VACANT SPACE

3133. Mrs C.L. Edwardes to the Premier; Minister for Public Sector Management; Federal Affairs; Science; Citizenship and Multicultural Interests

I refer the Premier to office space owned or leased by Departments and Agencies under the portfolio of the Premier and ask for each Department and Agency under the portfolio of the Premier -

- (a) what is the total area of office space owned by departments and agencies within your portfolios;
- (b) what is the total area of office space leased by departments and agencies within your portfolios;
- (c) of the office space owned by departments and agencies, within your portfolios, what is the total area of vacant office space;
- (d) where is each vacant office located;
- (e) what is the value of each vacant office and the cost of outgoings;
- (f) what is the reason for each office being vacant;
- (g) of the office space leased by departments and agencies, within your portfolios, what is the total area of vacant office space;
- (h) where is each vacant office located;
- (i) what is the value of each vacant office, the amount paid in rent and outgoings; and
- (j) what is the reason for each office being vacant?

Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:

(This is a consolidated answer prepared by the Department of Housing and Works for all General Government Sector agencies as at 25 November 2004).

- (a) 183,702 square metres
- (b) 292,910 square metres
- (c) 1,167 square metres or 0.6% of the total owned portfolio. The national average for all State jurisdictions is 1.3% for combined leased and owned accommodation. Western Australia has the second lowest accommodation vacancy rate among those State and Territory jurisdictions which report this data.
- (d) Bunbury (412 square metres)
Derby (569 square metres)
Merredin (88 square metres)
South Hedland (98 square metres)
- (e) Bunbury - \$113,996 forecast gross rental value in 2004-05
Derby - \$196,682 forecast gross rental value in 2004-05
Merredin - \$13,485 forecast gross rental value in 2004-05
South Hedland - \$25,480 forecast gross rental value in 2004-05
- (f) The Bunbury and Derby vacancies reflect a lack of demand for the available space. It is likely that the vacant space in the Bunbury Government Offices will be backfilled by a Government agency prior to the conclusion of 2004-05. The Derby vacancy is largely attributable to the recent withdrawal of the University of Notre Dame as a tenant in the building.
- (g) 2,896 square metres or 1.0% of the total leased portfolio. The national average for all State jurisdictions is 1.3% for combined leased and owned accommodation. Western Australia has the second lowest Government accommodation vacancy rate among those State and Territory jurisdictions which report this data.
- (h) Kalgoorlie (467 square metres)
Midland (329 square metres)
Bunbury (1,100 square metres)
Perth (1,000 square metres)
- (i) Kalgoorlie - \$121,743 contingent liability in 2004-05
Midland - \$104,661 contingent liability in 2004-05

Bunbury - \$597,890 contingent liability in 2004-05
Perth - \$398,757 contingent liability in 2004-05

- (j) Negotiations are currently in an advanced stage to lease the remaining vacant space at Bunbury Tower to a private tenant. It is therefore unlikely that the full contingent liability assigned to this tenancy will be required. The Midland vacancy, a specialised computer suite, has arisen following the termination of a lease by a private tenant. The Perth vacancy represents space previously occupied by the former Anti Corruption Commission under a lease which expires in 2005. The Kalgoorlie vacancy is made up of three smaller portions of space expiring in 2006. The space is no longer required by agencies as a result of a rationalisation of Government space use following Machinery of Government and Functional Review reforms.