

s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Sunday, 27 September 2020 4:00 PM
To: HALLINAN David
Cc: Media (Infrastructure)
Subject: Re: For clearance: WSA lines for DPM [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Very sensible suggestion Dave.

Thanks for clearing so quickly on a Sunday.

s47F

OFFICIAL

From: "HALLINAN David" <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>
Date: Sunday, 27 September 2020 at 3:33:33 pm
To: s47F @infrastructure.gov.au
Cc: "Media (Infrastructure)" <media@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: RE: For clearance: WSA lines for DPM [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Have suggested 'as with normal practice' rather than 'as appropriate' in the final point. Same point on relevant Minister, but avoids any confusion about whether the briefing itself was 'appropriate'. May otherwise be misconstrued as be about the content.

Dave

OFFICIAL

From: s47F @infrastructure.gov.au
Sent: Sunday, 27 September 2020 2:35 PM
To: HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>
Cc: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: For clearance: WSA lines for DPM [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

As discussed Dave, please find the following TP's for the DPM in anticipation of tomorrow's DANS/RANS presser. Additional highlighted words for consideration.

"Let me start by saying both the Department and I are taking this matter very seriously, with the Department already taking quick action to address any shortcomings in processes and decision-making identified in relation to the purchase."

"The Department has acknowledged the Australian National Audit Office's report and has agreed with all recommendations made.

"The Department has launched an investigation of staff conduct in the matter and will follow the due process of a formal investigation with an independent investigator.

"They are also undertaking an independent review of the transaction, by an independent auditor, to ensure any further problems in their processes are identified and addressed.

"These are sensible and appropriate actions and it would be inappropriate for me to pre-empt these investigations by commenting further at this time."

"The purchase strategy and approval of the Leppington Triangle purchase was undertaken by Departmental officials. As with normal practice, the Minister responsible (then Urban Infrastructure Minister Fletcher) was briefed on the process and the Department's final approval of the transaction.

s47F

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

s47F

GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601

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s22

s22



s47F

Thanks guys

From: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>

Sent: Sunday, 27 September 2020 4:59 PM

To: s47F@infrastructure.gov.au>

Ccs47F@infrastructure.gov.au>

s47F @infrastructure.gov.au>s47F d@infrastructure.gov.au>;

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@infrastructure.gov.au>s47F
```

s47F infrastructure.gov.au>; Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>

Subject: RE: WSA lines [SEC=OFFICIAL]

“The purchase strategy and approval of the Leppington Triangle purchase was undertaken by Departmental officials. As with normal practice, the Minister responsible was briefed on the process and the Department’s final approval of the transaction.”

s47F

From: HALLINAN David
Sent: Tuesday, 29 September 2020 5:42 PM
To: Media (Infrastructure)
Cc: s47F ; WHALEN Greg
Subject: RE: MEDIA ENQUIRY: Query re: ANAO audit and Leppington triangle [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

OFFICIAL

Thanks. agreed

OFFICIAL

From: Media (Infrastructure)
Sent: Tuesday, 29 September 2020 5:08 PM
To: HALLINAN David
Cc: s47F ; WHALEN Greg ; Media (Infrastructure)
Subject: RE: MEDIA ENQUIRY: Query re: ANAO audit and Leppington triangle [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks.

FYI, a further question has just been submitted as follows, but we'll stick to the agreed approach.

Were any representations made to the department about either the realignment of The Northern Road or the acquisition of the Leppington Triangle by the member for Hume, Angus Taylor? If so, what representations were made?

Regards,

s47F

From: HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 29 September 2020 2:51 PM
To: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>
s47F @infrastructure.gov.au; s47F
s47F @infrastructure.gov.au; WHALEN Greg <Greg.Whalen@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: RE: MEDIA ENQUIRY: Query re: ANAO audit and Leppington triangle [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Approved

OFFICIAL

From: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 29 September 2020 2:21 PM
To: HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>
Cc: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: MEDIA ENQUIRY: Query re: ANAO audit and Leppington triangle

Hi all

Please see below enquiry and proposed response for your approval. Deadline is 10am tomorrow.

PROPOSED RESPONSE:

The Australian National Audit Office report identifies serious matters that require appropriate investigation.

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications is undertaking investigation in accordance with the Public Service Act, following the due process of a formal investigation with an independent investigator.

The department is also undertaking an independent review of the transaction, by an independent auditor, to ensure any further problems in departmental processes are identified and addressed.

It would be inappropriate for the department to pre-empt these processes by commenting further at this time.

Kind regards,

[Redacted signature block]

Communication
Branch
Department of
Infrastructure,
Transport,
Regional
Development
and
Communications

[Redacted signature block]

1 GPO Box 594,
Canberra ACT
2601

[Redacted signature block]

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[Redacted signature block]

s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Thursday, 1 October 2020 8:08 AM
To: HALLINAN David; WHALEN Greg; s47F
Cc: Media (Infrastructure)
Subject: Fwd: Lines on this one. [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

Good morning Dave and Greg.

Minister Tudge's office have reached out seeking lines in response to s47F article on conflicts of interest (please see below).

I don't have visibility of this aspect and was hoping you could provide appropriate content to work through.

s47F has asked for content by 9am.

Thank you both.

s47F

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

s22



s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Thursday, 1 October 2020 8:33 AM
To: HALLINAN David
Cc: WHALEN Greg; s47F
Subject: RE: Urgent lines for clearance please [SEC=OFFICIAL;Sensitive]

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

OR a flat overarching line for the PM -

The department has announced an independent review to thoroughly investigate the issues raised and we intend to let that run its course before making further comment

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

From: s47F
Sent: Thursday, 1 October 2020 8:29 AM
To: HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>
Cc: WHALEN Greg <Greg.Whalen@infrastructure.gov.au>; s47F
 s47F @infrastructure.gov.au
Subject: Urgent lines for clearance please [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Importance: High

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

For your urgent review and clearance please Dave.

The Australian National Audit Office report identifies serious matters that require appropriate investigation.

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications is undertaking investigation in accordance with the Public Service Act, following the due process of a formal investigation with an independent investigator.

The Department is also undertaking an independent review of the transaction, by an independent auditor, to ensure any further problems in departmental processes are identified and addressed.

I'm assured this process is happening and we need to let the investigation run its course. Until then It would be inappropriate for me to make further comment on the details being investigated.

I'm disappointed this happened and I'm confident the department is taking the action required to ensure it doesn't happen again.

s47F

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601

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OFFICIAL:Sensitive

s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Thursday, 1 October 2020 8:54 AM
To: HALLINAN David
Cc: WHALEN Greg s47F
Subject: FW: Urgent lines for clearance please [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Importance: High

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

I think it's important to reflect this department is taking the appropriate action and should be supported by any Min statement.

Short form:

The ANAO has undertaken an independent performance audit on this matter. That's how these matters have been identified.

The Department is responding appropriately by undertaking further reviews and investigations into the matters raised and we intend to let those processes run their course before making further comment.

Long form:

Let's be clear, the ANAO has undertaken an independent performance audit of the Department's actions on this matter. That's what the ANAO does. And I support that role. That's how these matters have been identified by the press.

The Department is now responding appropriately to the findings in the report. The Department has accepted all recommendations, is treating the report very seriously, and is implementing changes in response to those recommendations.

Further to this, the report has identified concerning behaviours and apparent lapses in standards of administration in parts of the Department concerned in this audit. Appropriate investigations into those matters in accordance with the Public Service Act are underway.

The Department is also undertaking a further independent review of the transaction, by an independent auditor, to ensure any further problems in departmental processes are identified and addressed.

I'm assured these processes are happening and we need to let them run their course. Until then It would be inappropriate for me to make further comment on the details being investigated.

s47F

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

s47F

GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601

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OFFICIAL:Sensitive

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Wednesday, 14 October 2020 1:53 PM
To: MCRANDLE Brendan s47F
Cc: WHALEN Greg; HALLINAN David; s47F SPENCE Pip; CHARLES Susan
Subject: Mandarin Article on Leppington land purchase - 2 October [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: When the buck doesn't stop with the minister_ probity down the line _ The Mandarin.pdf **Article publicly available**

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Brendan.

Please find the attached article in the Mandarin from 2 October relating to the ANAO report on the Leppington land purchase.

While this article was included in the daily briefing on 3 October, the majority of the content remained behind a paywall. Our apologies for the oversight which has now been rectified.

Thanks,

s47F

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

s47F

GPO BOX 374, CANBERRA ACT 2601

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OFFICIAL

s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Friday, 16 October 2020 4:29 PM
To: HALLINAN David; VINE-CAMP Kerryn; WHALEN Greg
Cc: Media (Infrastructure); CHARLES Susan
Subject: For action: Updated statement on ANAO report into land purchase [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Dave

As discussed please see the revised statement (new items in red) below for your consideration and edit:
 Once cleared we will update the website and refer all enquiries to the statement

The following statement can be attributed to a spokesperson from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

The Department confirms the Australian Federal Police (AFP) are undertaking an investigation relating to the issues outlined in the ANAO report.

The Department are cooperating openly and completely with the AFP and will not be making further comment while the investigation is ongoing.

The Department acknowledges the findings of the ANAO and has agreed to all recommendations contained in the report.

The key findings of the audit relate to the administrative activities of officials of the Department two years ago.

The Department has launched an investigation of staff conduct in the matter and will follow the due process of a formal investigation with an independent investigator.

The Department is committed to implementing the changes outlined in our response to the audit to ensure this does not happen again. The Department's response to the Auditor General's findings can be found at Appendix 1 of the tabled report—www.anao.gov.au/work/performance-audit/purchase-the-leppington-triangle-land-the-future-development-western-sydney-airport#29-0-appendices

Kind regards,

s47F

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

s47F

GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601

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OFFICIAL

s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Friday, 16 October 2020 5:02 PM
To: HALLINAN David
Subject: Suggested working for Ministerial spokesperson [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

For consideration in place of introducing information not currently in the public sphere.

The below can be attributed to a spokesperson for the Minister:


"The AFP will get the complete and open cooperation of the Department throughout the investigation.
"There are also two independent investigations underway into this matter upon the request of the Department.
"No further comments will be made on an active AFP investigation"

s47F

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

s47F

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s47F

From: HALLINAN David
Sent: Friday, 16 October 2020 5:06 PM
To: s47F NE-CAMP Kerry; WHALEN Greg
Cc: Media (Infrastructure); CHARLES Susan
Subject: RE: For action: Updated statement on ANAO report into land purchase [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

As discussed.

OFFICIAL

From: s47F
Sent: Friday, 16 October 2020 4:29 PM
To: HALLINAN David ; VINE-CAMP Kerry; WHALEN Greg
Cc: Media (Infrastructure) ; CHARLES Susan
Subject: For action: Updated statement on ANAO report into land purchase [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon Dave

As discussed please see the revised statement (new items in red) below for your consideration and edit:
 Once cleared we will update the website and refer all enquiries to the statement

The following statement can be attributed to a spokesperson from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

The Department is working openly and completely with the AFP and will not be making further comment while the investigation is ongoing.

The Department acknowledges the findings of the ANAO and has agreed to all recommendations contained in the report.

The key findings of the audit relate to the administrative activities of officials of the Department two years ago.

The Department has launched an investigation of staff conduct in the matter and will follow the due process of a formal investigation with an independent investigator.

The Department is committed to implementing the changes outlined in our response to the audit to ensure this does not happen again. The Department's response to the Auditor General's findings can be found at Appendix 1 of the tabled report—www.anao.gov.au/work/performance-audit/purchase-the-leppington-triangle-land-the-future-development-western-sydney-airport#29-0-appendices


Kind regards,

s47F

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

s47F

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OFFICIAL

s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Wednesday, 21 October 2020 10:11 AM
To: s47F
Cc: s47F s47F
Subject: RE: Approached by s47F Journalist in relation to Western Sydney Airport [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Thanks s47F

s47F thank you for bringing this to our attention and if you wouldn't mind, can you please send me the original email you sent to s47F and the grad Team?

Thank you,

s47F

Director | Media Services
 Communication Branch
 Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

s47F

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OFFICIAL

From: s47F <s47F@infrastructure.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 21 October 2020 10:09 AM
To: s47F
Cc: s47F
Subject: RE: Approached by s47F Journalist in relation to Western Sydney Airport [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good Morning s47F

Thanks for reaching out to me in regard to the contact from a journalist s47F you have done the right thing. A number of staff were contacted by the same journalist via LinkedIn last night. The advice I have received from s47F the Director of the Department's media team (cc'd) is the following.

- You can either ignore the contact or respond directing the inquiry to the Department's media team.
 - If you do respond please only state the following 'Please address your enquiries to media@infrastructure.gov.au'.

Many thanks,

s47F

A/g Assistant Director |
Regulatory, Environmental and
Policy Advice
Regulatory Environment &
Stakeholder Engagement| Major
Transport and Infrastructure
Projects
Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development
and Communications

s47F



Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications**

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s22



s47F

From: s47F
Sent: Friday, 23 October 2020 2:17 PM
To: HALLINAN David; MANSON Hilary; SPENCE Pip; Stephanie Bourke; BOURKE Stephanie
Subject: RE: For response: s47F Media Enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive, ACCESS=Personal-Privacy]
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

OFFICIAL:Sensitive, Personal-Privacy

Thank you all.

I'll get the response away shortly.

s47F

This material may contain 'personal information' as defined under section 6 of the Privacy Act 1988

OFFICIAL:Sensitive, Personal-Privacy

From: HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 23 October 2020 2:09 PM
To: MANSON Hilary <Hilary.Manson@infrastructure.gov.au>; SPENCE Pip <Pip.Spence@infrastructure.gov.au>; Stephanie Bourke <Stephanie.bourke@communications.gov.au>; BOURKE Stephanie <Stephanie.Bourke@infrastructure.gov.au>
Cc: s47F @infrastructure.gov.au
Subject: RE: For response: s47F Media Enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive, ACCESS=Personal-Privacy]

OFFICIAL:Sensitive, Personal-Privacy

ditto

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OFFICIAL:Sensitive, Personal-Privacy

From: MANSON Hilary <Hilary.Manson@infrastructure.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 23 October 2020 2:08 PM
To: SPENCE Pip <Pip.Spence@infrastructure.gov.au>; HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>; Stephanie Bourke <Stephanie.bourke@communications.gov.au>; BOURKE Stephanie <Stephanie.Bourke@infrastructure.gov.au>

Cc: s47F [REDACTED]@infrastructure.gov.au>

Subject: RE: For response: s47F [REDACTED] Media Enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive, ACCESS=Personal-Privacy]

OFFICIAL:Sensitive, Personal-Privacy

I am

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OFFICIAL:Sensitive, Personal-Privacy

From: SPENCE Pip <Pip.Spence@infrastructure.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 23 October 2020 1:18 PM

To: HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>; Stephanie Bourke

<Stephanie.bourke@communications.gov.au>; BOURKE Stephanie <Stephanie.Bourke@infrastructure.gov.au>;

MANSON Hilary <Hilary.Manson@infrastructure.gov.au>

Cc: s47F [REDACTED]@infrastructure.gov.au>; SPENCE Pip <Pip.Spence@infrastructure.gov.au>

Subject: FW: For response: s47F [REDACTED] Media Enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive, ACCESS=Personal-Privacy]

Importance: High

OFFICIAL:Sensitive, Personal-Privacy

Good Afternoon

*Please see suggested response, discussed with the Secretary.
Is everyone ok with it?*

Thanks Pip

Suggested response:

Thank you for your enquiry s47F [REDACTED]

As previously stated, the Department is cooperating with the Australian Federal Police investigation into the Leppington Triangle land acquisition and will not be making further comment while the investigation is ongoing. This extends to questions about individual staff and the independent investigation being undertaken by Dr Vivenne Thom.

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OFFICIAL:Sensitive, Personal-Privacy

From: s47F @infrastructure.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 23 October 2020 12:20 PM
To: HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>; SPENCE Pip <Pip.Spence@infrastructure.gov.au>
Cc: BOURKE Stephanie <Stephanie.Bourke@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: For response: s47F Media Enquiry [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive, ACCESS=Personal-Privacy]
Importance: High

OFFICIAL:Sensitive, Personal-Privacy

Good afternoon

Please see the below s47F enquiry and suggested response for consideration/discussion.
Deadline 3pm but would like to get it away earlier if possible.

Suggested response:

Thank you for your enquiry s47F

As previously stated, the Department is working openly and completely with the Australian Federal Police investigation into the Leppington Triangle land acquisition and will not be making further comment while the investigation is ongoing. This extends to questions into individual staff and both independent investigations being undertaken by Dr Vivienne Thom s47F at the request of the Department.
(Did we provide any detail around timing of the Dr Thom report at Estimates? If so happy to include for clarification)

For consideration but not recommended

Please also note advice from the AFP in Senate Estimates this week that it is too early to speculate on any criminality while the investigation is ongoing.

Enquiry:

Good morning

I understand that s47F is the public servant subject to the investigation currently being undertaken by Dr Vivienne Thom regarding the Lepping Triangle purchase.

If my understanding is incorrect, I encourage Infrastructure to advise me as much.

Otherwise, I have the following questions:

1. On what exact date did s47F leave the s47F and why?
2. What is s47F current title within the Infrastructure Department and what is s47F current role, unit etc?
3. What is/was s47F involvement in s47F?
4. Does Infrastructure have any comment on the investigation currently being undertaken by Dr Vivienne Thom regarding the Lepping Triangle purchase.
5. Does s47F have any comment on the investigation currently being undertaken by Dr Vivienne Thom regarding the Lepping Triangle purchase.
6. How long does Infrastructure expect Dr Thom's investigation to run for?
7. When does Infrastructure expect Dr Thom's final findings to be made available to the department?
8. What is s47F current status within Infrastructure?
9. Is the suspended employee currently being investigated by Dr Thom suspended with or without pay?

My deadline is 3:00pm today - thank you.

Kind regards

s47F



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