



Bronwyn Bishop MP

Chairman

House of Representatives Standing Committee on
Family & Human Services

MEDIA RELEASE

13 February 2007

Federal Police Commissioner and Customs to give evidence on illicit drug trade in Australia

Federal Police Commissioner Mick Keelty and representatives from the Australian Customs Service will brief the House Families Committee tomorrow on the importation and manufacture of illicit drugs in Australia.

Chairman Bronwyn Bishop welcomed the public hearing as the first for the committee's recently launched inquiry into the impact of illicit drugs on families.

'We will be seeking evidence on how illicit drugs like heroin, ecstasy, speed, crystal meth (ice) and GHB (fantasy) are making their way onto our streets', Mrs Bishop said.

'Drugs intelligence and seizures made by Customs and the AFP yield valuable information on key trends on the illicit drug trade in Australia, as well as the trade in precursors used in the domestic manufacture of synthetic drugs'.

In 2005-06, the AFP and partner agencies prevented more than one tonne of illicit drugs reaching the Australian community.

Both the AFP and Customs report that while the level of heroin supply appears to remain reduced, there is evidence of increased traffic in amphetamines, methamphetamines and ecstasy.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE

Date: Wednesday 14 February 2007

Venue: Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House, Canberra

Time: 10.15 am – 11.30 am

For media interview: Please contact Damien Jones on **0409 147 247** at the electorate office of the Committee Chairman the Hon Mrs Bronwyn Bishop MP.

For further information on making a submission: contact the Committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4566 or email fhs.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/fhs/illicitdrugs/index.htm>