



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Customs Service**

**Ministerial No:**

**Minister for Justice and Customs**

**cc Attorney-General**

**Investigation into the Alleged Leak of Information to The Australian Newspaper**

**Deadline: Urgent - As soon as possible**

**Proposed action**

**That the alleged leak of information to The Australian be referred to the Australian Federal Police for investigation.**

**Reasons for proposed action**

- 1. An article in The Australian on 31 May (copy attached) refers to a "Secret Customs report" which exposes criminal links.**
- 2. It is apparent from the article that The Australian has access to an internal document in relation to risks inherent in a range of activities in Sydney Airport.**
- 3. The Australian Federal Police (AFP) have been approached to undertake an investigation into the leak of this document.**
- 4. The AFP has advised that in accordance with the Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines, this type of incident should be first reported to the Minister by the Department Head for referral to the AFP for investigation**
- 5. It is appropriate that the AFP undertake an investigation into the leak. In doing so, Mr Geoff Lanham, Manager Internal Affairs, will be the Customs contact and will assist the AFP as required.**

**Recommendation**

That you agree that the leak of the internal Customs document referred to in The Australian article of 31 May, be referred to the AFP for investigation.

**SIGNED / ORIGINATED BY:**

*L B Woodward*  
.....  
L B Woodward  
Chief Executive Officer  
6275 6800  
31 May 2005

~~Approved/Not Approved~~

*Wally*  
.....  
Minister for Justice and Customs  
116105.

*Please also advise whether the leak of this document had the potential to prejudice any ongoing operations*