Thanks Kerryn, will do so now.

Dave indeed did and they were both mine in the red text to refer media enquiries. Sorry!

Hi

Yes please can you reach out to the relevant media areas, including PMC, and provide the points. That is cleaner.

Can you check typo’s Dave thought he picked one up!!
I’d be comfortable with that Kerryn and would also suggest sharing with our DoF and the Government Solicitor for oversight.

Are you happy to facilitate this through your program partners or would you prefer we reach out to the respective media teams and provide embargoed as FYI?

Can we provide these to PMC.

K

Kerryn Vine-Camp CPHR
First Assistant Secretary | Major Transport and Infrastructure Projects Division
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development & Communications
t: 02 6274 7664 | m: 47F  
e: Kerryn.vine-camp@infrastructure.gov.au w: www.infrastructure.gov.au
GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601

The department proudly acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Australia, and their continuing connections to the land, waters and communities. We pay our respects to them and to their Elders past, present and emerging.
To: "VINE-CAMP Kerryn" <Kerryn.VINE-CAMP@infrastructure.gov.au>

OFFICIAL

Thanks Kerryn, I think these are in good shape and should cover the anticipated line of enquiries.

We’ll hold the TP’s now and draw upon them to present formed responses for your clearance should we receive any enquiries.

Please let me know if I can provide any further support.

Hope you have a relaxed weekend.

Director | Media Services
Communication Branch
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications
t: 47F
GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601
The department proudly acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Australia, and their continuing connections to the land, waters and communities. We pay our respects to them and to their Elders past, present and emerging.

OFFICIAL

From: VINE-CAMP Kerryn <Kerryn.VINE-CAMP@infrastructure.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 18 September 2020 2:49 PM
To: "VINE-CAMP Kerryn" <Kerryn.VINE-CAMP@infrastructure.gov.au>
Cc: HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>; SPENCE Pip <Pip.Spence@infrastructure.gov.au>; WHALEN Greg <Greg.Whalen@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: Talking points - ANAO Leppington Triangle report (002).docx [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Updated TP’s can you please sense check.

K
ANAO report on purchase of “Leppington Triangle” land for the future development of Western Sydney Airport

Talking Points

Please note: All media enquiries are to be referred to media@infrastructure.gov.au

- The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications notes the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) report and agrees with all recommendations made.

- The Department is already taking action to address any shortcomings in processes and decision-making identified in relation to the Leppington Triangle acquisition.

- The Department has a strong record of operating and meeting the highest standards of integrity and ethics.

- The department has engaged Sententia Consulting Pty Ltd to undertake an assurance review and provide advice to the department on areas for improvement.

- The Department will review existing frameworks and guidance on the requirements associated with developing proposals to spend public money in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013, and update accordingly.

- The department will review probity and conflict of interest reporting.

- The matters raised by the ANAO in the report are being investigated to ensure all necessary learning and appropriate action. This includes:
  - An independent review of the transaction arrangements to ensure the findings of the audit are addressed, and
  - Management reviews into matters of staff conduct identified by the ANAO, which will ensure the concerns raised are specifically addressed.
• An external probity adviser will be appointed to support ongoing functions related to major projects and land acquisitions.

  ○ This probity adviser will assist with the development of guidance materials on obtaining purchase valuations in consultation with the Department of Finance, to ensure that protocols are in line with operations of the Lands Acquisition Act 1989.

The Department notes the ANAO view the purchase could have been made at a much later date. However, the Department considers that

  ○ The acquisition of the Triangle represented the final parcel of land that needed to be acquired for the airport site, creating a complex market situation.

  ○ The acquisition of the Triangle came about alongside the establishment of the Western Sydney Airport Company and the public release of the Government’s Airport Plan which committed to a two-runway airport.

  ○ Early acquisition provided certainty to stakeholders for long term planning, has allowed Western Sydney Airport Company to plan effectively for the entire development of the Airport as identified in the Airport Plan, and has reduced the risk of future challenges on the Airport development.

• The Department agrees that the valuation strategy was unorthodox, however, the strategy was developed in consultation with the Department of Finance and the Australian Government Solicitor and was designed to mitigate the risk of costly and lengthy legal challenges.

• As the report notes, the land-holding company had previously challenged land acquisitions at the airport site with the Department spending over 10 years in legal proceedings.

**On the matter of ‘unethical behaviour’**

• Noting a thorough response to the findings is underway and the complexity of the acquisition process, the Department is currently investigating the assertions in the report of “unethical behaviour” by its officers. The department’s land acquisition was not undertaken in isolation with the strategy being developed in consultation with the Department of Finance and the Australian Government Solicitor.
Recommendation 1

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications prepare comprehensive and balanced written analysis on the benefits, costs and risks of proposals to spend public money.

Department response

Agreed. The Department has existing frameworks and guidance on the requirements associated with developing proposals to spend public money in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013.

The Department will review and update existing material to ensure there is a clear requirement for comprehensive and balanced written analysis on the benefits, costs and risks to support proposals to spend public money, and particularly in regard to valuations and land acquisitions. All staff will be reminded of their responsibilities and updated guidance material will be made available to all staff and appropriate training provided.

Recommendation 2

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications put in place meeting and communication protocols for when staff engage directly with individual landowners, developers or similar parties with heightened probity risks. The protocols should: include guidelines regarding suitable venues; require the presence of at least two departmental representatives; and to require properly recorded minutes of meetings and conversations.

Department response

Agreed. The Department has established protocols on meeting with interested parties developed specifically for the Western Sydney Unit. The guidance is available to all staff. The Department will review the protocols to expand coverage to other areas of the Department.

These will include, at a minimum, guidelines regarding suitable venues; require the presence of at least two departmental representatives; and properly recorded minutes of meetings and conversations. Staff will be reminded of their responsibilities and appropriate training provided.

Recommendation 3

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications develop policies and procedures to govern its approach to obtaining purchase valuations.

Department response

Agreed. The Department will develop specific guidance materials on obtaining purchase valuations in consultation with the Department of Finance, to ensure that protocols are in line with operations of the Lands Acquisition Act 1989. All guidance material will be made available to staff and appropriate training provided.
Departmental contact

Greg Whalen | greg.whalen@infrastructure.gov.au | 02 6274 7341 | 47F
Hi Dave

Please find the attached updated talking points as outlined below and confirming this version has been provided to both the Department of Finance and PMC.

Kind regards,

Director | Media Services
Communication Branch
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications
t: 047F  
e: @infrastructure.gov.au
GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601
The department proudly acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Australia, and their continuing connections to the land, waters and communities. We pay our respects to them and to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Hi

Not sure I have the final version of dot points. But I got a call from Finance overnight seeking a slight amendment to these. They’d prefer we not name them and AGS in the point on valuation strategy. I’m comfortable with the request.

Would you mind amending as below and distributing again. The relevant point is below. If we could remove the highlighted section, that would work best I think.
Many thanks

Dave

- The Department agrees that the valuation strategy was unorthodox, however, the strategy was developed in consultation with the Department of Finance and the Australian Government Solicitor and was designed to mitigate the risk of costly and lengthy legal challenges.

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

From: [47F] @infrastructure.gov.au
Sent: Friday, 18 September 2020 1:14 PM
To: VINE-CAMP Kerryn <Kerryn.VINE-CAMP@infrastructure.gov.au>
Cc: HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>; SORBELLO Stephen <Stephen.Sorbello@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: Talking points - ANAO Leppington Triangle report [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Hi Kerryn, how are you?

Please find the attached talking points for consideration and clearance based on our response to the report. Can you please return the approved version to me for the Media Team will hold the master copy and update accordingly.

Please note the TP’s are prepared in anticipation of media interest to develop responses in a timely manner. All enquiries will be assessed on an individual basis and responses developed in consultation with you.

We will monitor any media activity on this topic and deliver news items to you directly.

Happy to discuss further at any stage

Thanks,

Director | Media Services
Communication Branch
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications
t: 47F m: 47F e: 47F @infrastructure.gov.au
GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601
The department proudly acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Australia, and their continuing connections to the land, waters and communities. We pay our respects to them and to their Elders past, present and emerging.
Hi

As discussed.

Regards

Kerryn Vine-Camp

First Assistant Secretary, Major Transport and Infrastructure Projects
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development & Communications

t: 02 6274 7664 | m: 47F | e: Kerryn.vine-camp@infrastructure.gov.au | w: www.infrastructure.gov.au
GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601

The Department acknowledges the traditional owners of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their Elders both past and present.
ANAO report on purchase of “Leppington Triangle” land for the future development of Western Sydney Airport

Talking Points

Please note: All media enquiries are to be referred to media@infrastructure.gov.au

- The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications notes the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) report and agrees with all recommendations made.

- The Department is already taking action to address any shortcomings in processes and decision-making identified in relation to the Leppington Triangle acquisition.

- The Department has a strong record of operating and meeting the highest standards of integrity and ethics.

- The department has engaged Sententia Consulting Pty Ltd to undertake an assurance review and provide advice to the department on areas for improvement.

- The Department will review existing frameworks and guidance on the requirements associated with developing proposals to spend public money in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013, and update accordingly.

- The department will review probity and conflict of interest reporting.

- The matters raised by the ANAO in the report are being investigated to ensure all necessary learning and appropriate action. This includes:
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On the matter of ‘unethical behaviour’

• Noting a thorough response to the findings is underway and the complexity of the acquisition process, the Department is currently investigating the assertions in the report of “unethical behaviour” by its officers.

Background – Departmental response to recommendations

Recommendation 1

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications prepare comprehensive and balanced written analysis on the benefits, costs and risks of proposals to spend public money.
Department response

Agreed. The Department has existing frameworks and guidance on the requirements associated with developing proposals to spend public money in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013.

The Department will review and update existing material to ensure there is a clear requirement for comprehensive and balanced written analysis on the benefits, costs and risks to support proposals to spend public money, and particularly in regard to valuations and land acquisitions. All staff will be reminded of their responsibilities and updated guidance material will be made available to all staff and appropriate training provided.

Recommendation 2

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications put in place meeting and communication protocols for when staff engage directly with individual landowners, developers or similar parties with heightened probity risks. The protocols should: include guidelines regarding suitable venues; require the presence of at least two departmental representatives; and to require properly recorded minutes of meetings and conversations.

Department response

Agreed. The Department has established protocols on meeting with interested parties developed specifically for the Western Sydney Unit. The guidance is available to all staff. The Department will review the protocols to expand coverage to other areas of the Department.

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Recommendation 3

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications develop policies and procedures to govern its approach to obtaining purchase valuations.

Department response

Agreed. The Department will develop specific guidance materials on obtaining purchase valuations in consultation with the Department of Finance, to ensure that protocols are in line with operations of the Lands Acquisition Act 1989. All guidance material will be made available to staff and appropriate training provided.

Departmental contact

Greg Whalen I greg.whalen@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 7341, 47F
Hi Dave

Just confirming the response has been delivered as provided below.

Please find the attached updated media report containing all coverage to date.

I’ll provide a further update after 9am tomorrow.

Thank you.

---

Hi

Have reviewed the proposed amendments with the Secretary. We’d like to go with the version herein.

**Query**

1. What is the process of investigation you are undertaking?
2. Will this involve an external investigation? Is it appropriate for the dept to be investigating itself?
3. Does the phrase "individual breaches of integrity" indicate the department believes there is a prima facie case that its officers breached legislation/guidelines/their employment contracts?
4. How many departmental officials are being investigated? Have they been suspended? What levels of public servant are being investigated?
5. who was the delegate/decision-maker?

**Response**

The ANAO report identifies serious matters that require appropriate investigation. The Department 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 is not appropriate for the Department to identify or make comment on individual/s during independent investigations.
Hi,

I'm writing a follow-up on the Leppington Triangle ANAO report.

I'm particularly interested in this in the department's response:

*In light of the allegation of individual breaches of integrity, the matters raised by the ANAO in the report are being investigated to ensure all such matters are fully understood and appropriate action can be taken.*

Could I please ask:

- What is the process of investigation you are undertaking?
- Will this involve an external investigation? Is it appropriate for the dept to be investigating itself?
- Does the phrase “individual breaches of integrity” indicate the department believes there is a prima facie case that its officers breached legislation/guidelines/their employment contracts?
- How many departmental officials are being investigated? Have they been suspended? What levels of public servant are being investigated?

Thanks for considering.

Kind regards,
Media Coverage Report | Leppington Triangle
Compiled for Department of Infrastructure on 22 September 2020

News Volume over 3 Days
20 September 2020 to 22 September 2020

Volume Breakdown
A breakdown of media coverage by media type based on volume of coverage

Mentions Heatmap
Shows the times your organisation is mentioned most in the media

TV (9:00am)
Online (4:00pm)
Radio (11:00pm)
Coverage by Media Type

Online
- Australian Community Media: 129 articles
- Seven West Media: 15 articles
- News Corp: 10 articles
- McPherson Media: 7 articles
- Independent: 6 articles

Radio
- ABC: 59 articles
- Nine Radio: 14 articles
- TRSN: 5 articles
- Bathurst Broadcasters: 4 articles
- Grant Broadcasters: 3 articles

TV
- WIN Network: 50 articles
- Southern Cross Austereo: 22 articles
- Ten: 14 articles
- Nine: 11 articles
- WIN Network/Southern Cross Austereo: 2 articles

Print
- Nine: 3 articles
- News Corp: 2 articles

Top Authors
- Paul Osborne: 122 articles
- Clare Armstrong: 9 articles
- AAP Newswire: 8 articles
- Matt O'Sullivan: 7 articles

Top Publishers
- Camden Advertiser: 3 articles
- Broome Advertiser: 2 articles
- Crikey: 2 articles
- Adelaide Now: 1 article
- Benalla Ensign: 1 article

Top Programs
- Studio 10: 50 articles
- National Nine Early Morn...: 20 articles
- Studio 10: 14 articles
- National Nine Early Morn...: 11 articles
- National Nine Early Morn...: 2 articles
Potential Audience Reach  Cumulative potential audience across all media items in report  7,349,500
Mentions

Taxpayers paid 10 times fair value for land next to Western Sydney Airport, audit finds

Travel Weekly – 22 September 2020, 5:04pm
by | 633 words | Potential Audience: 5000 | Media ID. ON83302756

Mentions: audit (3), ANAO (5), Infrastructure (5), ANAO’s audit (1), Leppington (5), Infrastructure’s (1), ANAO audit (1), ANAO’s (1)

VIEW ONLINE

Govt Drops $30m on Western Sydney Land Worth $3m: Audit

The Urban Developer – 22 September 2020, 4:15pm
by | 662 words | Potential Audience: 10000 | Media ID. ON83303097

Mentions: Audit (4), Leppington (7), ANAO (6), Infrastructure (3), ANAO audit (1)

VIEW ONLINE

Federal Govt. questioned over Western Sydney Airport purchase

The Market Herald – 22 September 2020, 3:04pm
by Belinda Cameron | 547 words | Media ID. ON83292362

Mentions: Audit (4), ANAO (4), Leppington (2), Infrastructure (3), audit’s (1), ANAO’s (1)

VIEW ONLINE

Audit finds Government paid $26.7 million more for Western Sydney Airport land than it was worth

Infrastructure Magazine – 22 September 2020, 1:13pm
by Imogen Hartmann | 365 words | Potential Audience: 1000 | Media ID. ON83286085

Mentions: Audit (4), ANAO (5), Leppington (2), Infrastructure (3), ANAO’s audit (1)

VIEW ONLINE

Govt paid $30m for airport land, later reported it was valued $3m

South West Voice – 22 September 2020, 11:56am
by Eric Kontos | 450 words | Potential Audience: 2000 | Media ID. ON83274088

Mentions: Audit (1), ANAO (3), infrastructure (4), Leppington (2)

VIEW ONLINE
Audit report reveals government paid 10 times what parcel of Leppington land was worth

Camden Advertiser – 22 September 2020, 11:48am
by Kayla Osborne | 453 words | Potential Audience: 2000 | Media ID. ON83294809

SYNDICATION
Camden Advertiser, Camden Advertiser, Macarthur Advertiser, Macarthur Advertiser, Wollondilly Advertiser, Wollondilly Advertiser

REPORT

Queensland a landowner has been paid 10 times the value of his property to make way for the new Western Sydney Airport, The Commonwealth bought the Leppington triangle site for 30,000,000 dollars less than a year later, the National Audit Office valued it at just over 3,000,000 dollars. Less than a year later, the National Audit Office valued it at just over 3,000,000 deaths and illnesses from Bushfire, I smoke estimate.

Why did taxpayers buy land for 10 times what it was worth from a Coalition donor?

Crikey – 22 September 2020, 11:14am
by Bernard Keane | 904 words | Potential Audience: 31000 | Media ID. ON83271414

The minister says it will deliver about 130-thousand jobs over that period. An audit has found that the government paid ten times what a piece of land was worth as part of the western sydney airport development. Taxpayers were slugged almost $30 million for a 12-hectare property purchased from the Leppington pastoral company in 2018. Incredibly, only one valuation was obtained prior to the sale. Then, less than a year later, it was valued at just over $3 million. In its scathing report, the Australian National Audit office said briefings to ministers were “inappropriate and inconsistent with acting ethically. A raging tip fire has blanketed melbourne’s northwestern suburbs in smoke.
The Department says it’s investigating staff conduct after a report found the federal government overspent on land for the new Western Sydney Airport. The National Audit Office says the Leppington triangle site was valued at just over 3,000,000 dollars but was sold to the Commonwealth for 30,000,000 dollars, Shadow Infrastructure Minister Catherine King says the report also raises questions of possible unethical conduct by the Infrastructure Department departmental officials meeting with the land holder on their own,

The John Laws Morning Show 5 times a week, 9:00am to 12:00pm
2SM (Sydney) – 22 September 2020, 11:02am
Media ID. RA723132832

Bren jelly for 29.8 million dollars, The land was purchased from the Leppington Pastoral company and will be used in 2,050 for a second runway for the Western Sydney Airport but a valuation of the land conducted less than a year after the purchase has found it’s only worth 3,000,000 dollars, The Australian National Audit Office has now questioned the integrity of the valuation and sales process claiming there was no documented consideration of costs, The federal Infrastructure Department has considered the valuation approach,

News Bulletin 7 times a week, 11:00am to 11:05am
2ST FM Coast (Nowra) – 22 September 2020, 11:00am
Media ID. RA723131702

the value of his property to make way for the new Western Sydney Airport, The Commonwealth bought the Leppington triangle site for 30,000,000 dollars, Less than a year later, the National Audit Office valued it at just over 3,000,000 death, Send illnesses,

Studio 10 5 times a week, 8:00am to 12:00pm
Ten (Perth) – 22 September 2020, 10:31am
Potential Audience: 8900 | Media ID. TC77350802

An audit has found that the government paid 10 times what a piece of land was worth as part of the western sydney airport development. Taxpayers were slugged almost $30 million for a 12-hectare property purchased from the Leppington pastoral company in 2018. Then, less than a year later, it was valued at just over $3 million. In its scathing report, the australian national audit office said briefings to ministers were “inappropriate and inconsistent with acting ethically.

SYNDICATION
WIN Network [25 Syndications], Ten [7 Syndications], Southern Cross Austereo [1 Syndication]
the new Western Sydney Airport, The Commonwealth bought the Leppington triangle site for 30,000,000 dollars less than a year later, the National Audit Office valued it at just over 3,000,000 dollars Queensland’s border, Bubble is expanding to include five local government areas in New South,

Federal government paid out nearly $30m for land worth $3m
Sky News – 22 September 2020, 9:43am
by | 146 words | Potential Audience: 71000 | Media ID. ON83262929

Mentions: Audit (1), Leppington (2)

GOVT PAID TEN TIMES MARKET VALUE FOR AIRPORT LAND

Scott Morrison will meanwhile address you in virtually again on Friday night in a longer and wide ranging leaders address. The auditor general has given a scathing review of the Department of infrastructure. In Bringelly, it was purchased off a family owned billionaire company Leppington pastoral and that was purchased back in July of 2,018 now, the federal government spent 26.10.

The Ben Fordham Breakfast Show 5 times a week, 5:30am to 9:00am
Sky News (Australia) – 22 September 2020, 8:31am
Potential Audience: 176000 | Media ID. RA723018208

federal government overspent on land for the new Western Sydney Airport, The National Audit Office says the Leppington triangle site was valued at just over 3,000,000 dollars, but was salted of the Commonweal, SYNDICATION 2UE (Sydney)

Govt paid ten times market value for airport land
Government News – 22 September 2020, 8:32am
by | 534 words | Potential Audience: 4000 | Media ID. ON83259914

Mentions: Infrastructure’s (2), audit (5), Infrastructure (3), Leppington (2), ANAO (1)

Breaky with Kerry Peck 5 times a week, 6:00am to 9:00am
2BS (Bathurst) – 22 September 2020, 8:31am
Media ID. RA723017568

The National Audit Office says the Leppington triangle site was valued at just over 3,000,000 dollars, but was salted the Commonwealth for 30,000,000 the infrastructure Department says it accepts recommendations made in the report,
Taxpayers ripped off in ‘worst deal of the decade’

2GB – 22 September 2020, 8:09am
by Ben Fordham | 68 words | Potential Audience: 18000 | Media ID. ON83256185

Mentions: Audit [2], Leppington [1]

Michael Packy Nine News, A report has found the federal government paid too much for land for the new Western Sydney Airport, the National Audit Office says the Leppington triangle site was valued at just over 3,000,000 dollars less than a,

Breakfast with Kerry Peck 5 times a week, 6:00am to 9:00am
2GB (Sydney) – 22 September 2020, 7:31am
Potential Audience: 160000 | Media ID. RA722970368

much for land for the new Western Sydney Airport the National Audit Office says the Leppington triangle site was valued at

Breakfast with Ali Clarke 5 times a week, 5:57am to 8:00am
ABC Adelaide (Adelaide) – 22 September 2020, 7:24am
Potential Audience: 23000 | Media ID. RA722964918

To go over to Alan Tudge the minister for urban infrastructure there’s the delineation there haven’t heard back from Mr Tudge’s office either we’ve also contacted Leppington pastoral, which is the large family owned dairy company that actually sold this plot of land to see what they’ve got to say about

Breakfast with Wendy Harmer & Robbie Buck 5 times a week, 6:00am to 8:00am
ABC Sydney (Sydney) – 22 September 2020, 7:19am
Potential Audience: 112000 | Media ID. RA722960737

1 of Australia’s largest car company, So it was actually valued before the sale went ahead, It was valued by from someone who was recommended by the Leppington Pastoral company who owned this to this piece of land and it’s being leased of this, So the Department of infrastructure has said that it’s investigating allegations of individual breaches of integrity in relation to the,
taxpayers paid 10 times more than they needed to because of advice from the Department of infrastructure. The Department told the government to fork out 29.8 million dollars for 12 hectares in Leppington.

Here is political reporter, emma larouche. the national audit office has issued a scathing assessment of how the federal government handled taxpayers’ money. 8 million for the land in 2018 to a dairy company run by the billionaire perech family. Only one valuation was carried out before that sale and it was done by a valuer suggest by the leppington pastoral company. A year after the purchase a valuation by the department of infrastructure found it was only worth just over $3 million. This valuation sparked the audit on the grounds that it was considered a significant and unusual transaction. The report has found the department “fell court of ethical standards in its acquisition of the land”.

government during the Covid 19 pandemic, A report has found taxpayers spent 30,000,000 dollars on land worth about 10% of that, the National Audit Office says Leppington triangle site for Western Sydney Airport was valued at just to start he the,

As on land worth about 10% of that, the National Audit Office says Leppington triangle site for Western Sydney Airport was valued at just over 3,000,000 dollars, That was sold at the Commonwealth for 30,000,000 the federal government is preparing

It’s seven o’clock good morning I’m Natalie Peters, a report has found the federal government overspent on land for the new Western Sydney Airport, The National Audit Office says the Leppington triangle site was valued at just over 3,000,000 dollars but was sold to the Commonwealth for 30,000,000 shadow Infrastructure Minister Catherine King says the report also raises questions of possible unethical conduct by the infrastructure Department departmental officials meeting with the LANDHOLDER on their own, The venue know brick,
3,000,000 The Australian National audit offers has looked at the purchase of the Leppington triangle land. It’s found the infrastructure department.

**VIEW IN STREEM**

**Breakfast with David Eisenhauer** 5 times a week, 6:00am to 10:00am
**FM96.3 Sounds of the Mountains (Cootamundra)** – 22 September 2020, 7:01am
Media ID. RA722947300

Economic need is right time to make that chain and ordered his father federal government paid 30 million dollars for land for the new Western Sydney Airport the spider being work. Just 3 million Australian National Audit Office is look at the purchase, I’ll be Leppington triangle, and it’s found the infrastructure department didn’t do, It’s due diligence at aspects

**VIEW IN STREEM**

**Breaky with Kerry Peck** 5 times a week, 6:00am to 9:00am
**2BS (Bathurst)** – 22 September 2020, 7:00am
Media ID. RA722946587

it’s seven o’clock good morning I’m Natalie Peters, a report has found the federal government overspent on land for the new Western site airport, The National Audit Office says the Leppington triangle side was,

**VIEW IN STREEM**

**The Ben Fordham Breakfast Show** 5 times a week, 6:30am to 9:00am
**2GB (Sydney)** – 22 September 2020, 6:33am
Potential Audience: 169000 | Media ID. RA722926525

The National Audit Office says Leppington triangle, The site for the Western Sydney Airport was valued at just over 3,000,000 dollars, but

**SYNDICATION**
**2UE (Sydney)**

**VIEW IN STREEM**

**Breaky with Kerry Peck** 5 times a week, 6:00am to 9:00am
**2BS (Bathurst)** – 22 September 2020, 6:32am
Media ID. RA722925636

of that, The National Audit Office says Leppington triangle, The site for the Western Sydney Airport was valued at just over 3,000,000 dollars, but was sold to the Commonwealth for 30,000,000 the atmosphere is expected to be 10 for in state,

**VIEW IN STREEM**

**Breakfast with Wendy Harmer & Robbie Buck** 5 times a week, 6:00am to 8:00am
**ABC Sydney (Sydney)** – 22 September 2020, 6:19am
Potential Audience: 71000 | Media ID. RA722915866

Airport, This is news from the Australian National Audit Office that we’ve heard about in the last 24 hours the 12 hectare pocket of land was bought by the Commonwealth for 29,8 million dollars from the Leppington Pastoral company in,

**VIEW IN STREEM**
And harder it’s six o’clock, Good morning on Natalie Peters, A report has found the Infrastructure Department failed to exercise proper due diligence before overpaying for land for the Western Sydney Airport, the National Audit Office says the Leppington triangle site for the federal Infrastructure Minister Alan Tudge says there’s no question of ministerial involvement, The federal government will unveil an 18.

**SYNDICATION**

2UE (Sydney)

**VIEW IN STREEM**

Or Audit Office says the Leppington triangle site was valued at just over 3,000,000 dollars a year after it was sold to the Commonwealth for 30,000,000 a spokesperson for the federal Infrastructure Minister Alan Tudge says there’s no question of

**SYNDICATION**

2BS (Bathurst), 2LT (Blue Mountains), 2YOU FM (Tamworth), Great Lakes FM (Great Lakes)

**VIEW IN STREEM**

Peters, a report has found the infrastructure Department failed to exercise proper due diligence before overpaying for land for the Western Sydney Airport, The National Audit Office says the Leppington trial,
Breakfast with Grant Goldman 5 times a week, 5:00am to 9:00am

2SM [Sydney] – 22 September 2020, 5:40am

Than the fair value of a 12.26 hectare triangle of land at [Leppington](https://www.streem.com.au), This happened back in July 2,018 that they thought potentially would be needed to build a second runway in around three decades, So what are we basing this on the price of what the land might have been in three decades now, Less than a year after the Department of [infrastructure](https://www.streem.com.au) advised, the government buy the land from the [Leppington](https://www.streem.com.au) Pastoral company at the high price,

**VIEW IN STREEM**

**Airport land cost $26.7m above value**

**Australian Financial Review (AFR)** – 22 September 2020, 12:00am


**VIEW PRINT ITEM**

**Taxpayers spent $30m on runway land worth $3m**

**The Sydney Morning Herald** – 22 September 2020, 12:00am

by [Matt O'Sullivan](https://www.streem.com.au) | on front page | 672 words | Potential Audience: 78000 | Media ID. PR05050569


**VIEW PRINT ITEM**

**Feds paid land owner 22 times over NSW price**

**The Sydney Morning Herald** – 22 September 2020, 12:00am

by [Matt O'Sullivan City Editor](https://www.streem.com.au) | on page 5 | 549 words | Potential Audience: 78000 | Media ID. PR05050560


**VIEW PRINT ITEM**

**Flying high: Feds pay $27m over for airport**

**The Australian** – 22 September 2020, 12:00am

by [Rosie Lewis](https://www.streem.com.au) | on front page | 809 words | Potential Audience: 94000 | Media ID. PR05048392

Mentions: [Audit](https://www.streem.com.au) [3], [Infrastructure](https://www.streem.com.au) [5], [Leppington](https://www.streem.com.au) [6], [ANA0](https://www.streem.com.au) [1]

**VIEW PRINT ITEM**

**Government slammed for sky-high purchase**

**The Daily Telegraph** – 22 September 2020, 12:00am

by [Clare Armstrong](https://www.streem.com.au) | on page 9 | 243 words | Potential Audience: 222000 | Media ID. PR05047469


**VIEW PRINT ITEM**
Nightlife with Philip Clark 4 times a week, 7:00pm to 11:00pm
ABC Goldfields (Goldfields) – 21 September 2020, 11:52pm
Media ID. RA722627721

Point 6 5,000,000 a tenth of the price of the Leppington Pastoral company, Was it led to an audit by the federal Auditor

SYNDICATION
ABC Esperance (Esperance), ABC Great Southern (Albany), ABC Kimberley (Kimberley), ABC Mid-West and Wheatbelt (Wheatbelt), ABC Perth (Perth), ABC Pilbara (Pilbara), ABC South West WA (South West WA)

SYNDICATION
ABC [86 Syndications]

News Bulletin 7 times a week, 11:00pm to 11:05pm
ABC Adelaide [Adelaide] – 21 September 2020, 11:32pm
Potential Audience: 5000 | Media ID. RA722610137

Western Sydney Airport for 10 times, What the property was worth, Matthew Doran reports from Parliament House, The 12 hex air pocket of land was bought by the Commonwealth for 29,8 million dollars from the Leppington Pastoral company, But

less than a year later, the government estimated the plot was worth just over 3,000,000 dollars, It sits at what will be the end of the Western Sydney Airport’s second runway, The Audit Office has criticised the federal infrastructure.

SYNDICATION
ABC [86 Syndications]

News Bulletin 5 times a week, 7:00pm to 7:05pm
6IX 1080AM (Perth) – 21 September 2020, 9:01pm
Potential Audience: 100 | Media ID. RA722490948

VIEW IN STREEM

for the new Western Sydney Airport to the tune of 26,7 million dollars, The Australian National audit officers looked at the purchase of the Leppington triangle land it’s found the infrastructure department,

VIEW IN STREEM

News Bulletin 7 times a week, 9:00pm to 9:05pm
2GB (Sydney) – 21 September 2020, 9:01pm
Potential Audience: 33000 | Media ID. RA722490673

VIEW IN STREEM

Of a Rugby League fight it’s nine o’clock good evening I’m Helleni landed off, An audit has found the federal government paid 30,000,000 dollars for land for the new Western Sydney Airport, despite it being worth just 3,000,000 The Australian National Audit Office has looked at the purchase of the Leppington triangle land, It’s found the infrastructure Department didn’t do its due diligence and aspects of the operations fell short of ethical standards? A spokesperson for infrastructure Minister Alan Tudge says the department is invested Stigating staff conduct a Jerusalem,

SYNDICATION
4BC (Brisbane)

VIEW IN STREEM
Department’s ‘ethical standards’ questioned after ‘inflating’ land price by 10 times, audit office claims

**The New Daily** – 21 September 2020, 8:15pm
**by Josh Butler** | 970 words | Potential Audience: 68000 | Media ID. ON83220069

Mentions: audit (2), infrastructure (6), Leppington (8), ANAO (13), Infrastructure’s (1)

VIEW ONLINE

Government paid 10 times too much for land at Western Sydney airport to be used after 2050

**The Guardian** – 21 September 2020, 8:15pm
**by Paul Karp** | 852 words | Potential Audience: 387000 | Media ID. ON83220055

Mentions: Leppington (4), Audit (2), ANAO (11), infrastructure (3), ANAO’s (1)

VIEW ONLINE

Western Sydney airport land buy queried

**Town and Country Magazine** – 21 September 2020, 8:01pm
**by Paul Osborne** | 265 words | Potential Audience: 1000 | Media ID. ON83208823

Mentions: audit (2), infrastructure (1), Leppington (2), audit’s (1)

SYNDICATION
Australian Community Media [122 Syndications]

VIEW ONLINE

Federal Government paid ten times value of land for future Western Sydney Airport expansion

**Sound Telegraph** – 21 September 2020, 7:36pm
**by Clare Armstrong** | 465 words | Media ID. ON83220858

Mentions: audit (2), Leppington (4), Infrastructure (3), ANAO (3)

SYNDICATION

VIEW ONLINE

Federal Government paid ten times value of land for future Western Sydney Airport expansion

**The Courier Mail** – 21 September 2020, 7:36pm
**by Clare Armstrong** | 525 words | Potential Audience: 173000 | Media ID. ON83218851

Mentions: audit (2), Leppington (4), Infrastructure (4), ANAO (3)

SYNDICATION

VIEW ONLINE
Taxpayers spent $30m on land worth only $3m for Western Sydney Airport’s second runway

Brisbane Times – 21 September 2020, 6:45pm
by Matt O’Sullivan | 567 words | Potential Audience: 378000 | Media ID. ON83215319

Mentions: Leppington (6), Infrastructure’s (1), audit (2), Infrastructure (2)

SYNDICATION
Brisbane Times. The Age. The Sydney Morning Herald (SMH). WA Today

VIEW ONLINE

Auditor slams government ‘ethics’ in airport land deal

Australian Financial Review (AFR) – 21 September 2020, 6:33pm
by John Kehoe | 621 words | Potential Audience: 87000 | Media ID. ON83214900

Mentions: Audit (4), Infrastructure (7), Leppington (5), ANAO (5), Infrastructure’s (1)

VIEW ONLINE

Government paid 10 times what Western Sydney Airport land was worth, audit finds

ABC News – 21 September 2020, 6:26pm
by Matthew Doran | 426 words | Potential Audience: 1126000 | Media ID. ON83214931

Mentions: audit (3), Leppington (3), ANAO (4), ANAO’s (1)

SYNDICATION
ABC News. MSN Australia

VIEW ONLINE

Political Alert - Scathing Auditor-General report: $26.7m overspend on donor’s $3m piece of land (FED)

CCH Parliament Political Alerts – 21 September 2020, 5:45pm
349 words | Media ID. ON83211357

Mentions: INFRASTRUCTURE (5), Leppington (5), audit (1)

VIEW ONLINE

CATHERINE KING - MEDIA RELEASE - SCATHING AUDITOR-GENERAL REPORT: $26.7M OVERSPEND ON DONOR’S $3M PIECE OF LAND - MONDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 2020

Federal Labor Media – 21 September 2020, 5:38pm
431 words | Media ID. ON83210573

Mentions: INFRASTRUCTURE (5), Leppington (5), audit (1)

VIEW ONLINE
Federal government paid 10 times more than airport land value
The Australian – 21 September 2020, 5:10pm
by ROSIE LEWIS, GREG BROWN | 323 words | Potential Audience: 201000 | Media ID. ON83208060

VIEW ONLINE

Western Sydney airport land buy queried
Shepparton News – 21 September 2020, 4:55pm
by AAP Newswire | 262 words | Potential Audience: 5000 | Media ID. ON83207260

VIEW ONLINE
Good afternoon Dave and Greg

Please find the below enquiry from and our proposed response based on previously agreed talking points
I don’t feel the highlighted lines are required here however have left in for consideration.
Happy to discuss.

Enquiry
This new auditor general report suggests the government overpaid $26m for the land purchased for western Sydney airport, Labor says.
Can you provide any comments by 5:30pm today?

Suggested response

Thank you for your enquiry

The Department notes and agrees with all recommendations made by the ANAO and is already taking action to address any shortcomings in processes and decision-making identified in relation to the Leppington Triangle acquisition.

The matters raised by the ANAO in the report are being investigated to ensure all necessary learning and appropriate action. This includes:

- An independent review of the transaction arrangements to ensure the findings of the audit are addressed, and
- Management reviews into matters of staff conduct identified by the ANAO, which will ensure the concerns raised are specifically addressed.

The Department has a strong record of operating and meeting the highest standards of integrity and ethics and we have immediately engaged Sententia Consulting Pty Ltd to undertake an assurance review and provide advice to the department on areas for improvement.
The department will also review existing frameworks and guidance on the requirements associated with developing proposals to spend public money in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013, and update accordingly.

Early acquisition in this case provided certainty to stakeholders for long term planning, has allowed Western Sydney Airport Company to plan effectively for the entire development of the Airport as identified in the Airport Plan, and has reduced the risk of future challenges on the Airport development.

The Department also notes the ANAO view the purchase could have been made at a much later date. However, the Department considers that:

- The acquisition of the Triangle represented the final parcel of land that needed to be acquired for the airport site, creating a complex market situation.
The acquisition of the Triangle came about alongside the establishment of the Western Sydney Airport Company and the public release of the Government’s Airport Plan which committed to a two-runway airport.

From: 47F
Sent: Monday, 21 September 2020 3:54 PM
To: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: auditor report on airport land purchase

Hello

This new auditor general report suggests the government overpaid $26m for the land purchased for western Sydney airport, Labor says.


Can you please provide any comments by 530pm today?

Best Wishes,
ANAO report on purchase of “Leppington Triangle” land for the future development of Western Sydney Airport

Talking Points

Please note: All media enquiries are to be referred to media@infrastructure.gov.au

- The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications notes the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) report and agrees with all recommendations made.

- The Department is already taking action to address any shortcomings in processes and decision-making identified in relation to the Leppington Triangle acquisition.

- The Department has a strong record of operating and meeting the highest standards of integrity and ethics.

- The department has engaged Sententia Consulting Pty Ltd to undertake an assurance review and provide advice to the department on areas for improvement.

- The Department will review existing frameworks and guidance on the requirements associated with developing proposals to spend public money in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013, and update accordingly.

- The department will review probity and conflict of interest reporting.

- The matters raised by the ANAO in the report are being investigated to ensure all necessary learning and appropriate action. This includes:
  
  - An independent review of the transaction arrangements to ensure the findings of the audit are addressed, and
  
  - Management reviews into matters of staff conduct identified by the ANAO, which will ensure the concerns raised are specifically addressed.
- An external probity adviser will be appointed to support ongoing functions related to major projects and land acquisitions.

  - This probity adviser will assist with the development of guidance materials on obtaining purchase valuations in consultation with the Department of Finance, to ensure that protocols are in line with operations of the Lands Acquisition Act 1989.

The Department notes the ANAO view the purchase could have been made at a much later date. However, the Department considers that

  - The acquisition of the Triangle represented the final parcel of land that needed to be acquired for the airport site, creating a complex market situation.

  - The acquisition of the Triangle came about alongside the establishment of the Western Sydney Airport Company and the public release of the Government’s Airport Plan which committed to a two-runway airport.

  - Early acquisition provided certainty to stakeholders for long term planning, has allowed Western Sydney Airport Company to plan effectively for the entire development of the Airport as identified in the Airport Plan, and has reduced the risk of future challenges on the Airport development.

- The Department agrees that the valuation strategy was unorthodox, however, the strategy was designed to mitigate the risk of costly and lengthy legal challenges.

- As the report notes, the land-holding company had previously challenged land acquisitions at the airport site with the Department spending over 10 years in legal proceedings.

**On the matter of ‘unethical behaviour’**

- Noting a thorough response to the findings is underway and the complexity of the acquisition process, the Department is currently investigating the assertions in the report of “unethical behaviour” by its officers.

**Background – Departmental response to recommendations**

**Recommendation 1**

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications prepare comprehensive and balanced written analysis on the benefits, costs and risks of proposals to spend public money.
Department response

Agreed. The Department has existing frameworks and guidance on the requirements associated with developing proposals to spend public money in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013.

The Department will review and update existing material to ensure there is a clear requirement for comprehensive and balanced written analysis on the benefits, costs and risks to support proposals to spend public money, and particularly in regard to valuations and land acquisitions. All staff will be reminded of their responsibilities and updated guidance material will be made available to all staff and appropriate training provided.

Recommendation 2

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications put in place meeting and communication protocols for when staff engage directly with individual landowners, developers or similar parties with heightened probity risks. The protocols should: include guidelines regarding suitable venues; require the presence of at least two departmental representatives; and to require properly recorded minutes of meetings and conversations.

Department response

Agreed. The Department has established protocols on meeting with interested parties developed specifically for the Western Sydney Unit. The guidance is available to all staff. The Department will review the protocols to expand coverage to other areas of the Department.

These will include, at a minimum, guidelines regarding suitable venues; require the presence of at least two departmental representatives; and properly recorded minutes of meetings and conversations. Staff will be reminded of their responsibilities and appropriate training provided.

Recommendation 3

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications develop policies and procedures to govern its approach to obtaining purchase valuations.

Department response

Agreed. The Department will develop specific guidance materials on obtaining purchase valuations in consultation with the Department of Finance, to ensure that protocols are in line with operations of the Lands Acquisition Act 1989. All guidance material will be made available to staff and appropriate training provided.

Departmental contact

Greg Whalen I greg.whalen@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 7341,
Good afternoon Dave and Greg

We have received the following request from Hallinan David; Whalen Greg regarding the recently tabled ANAO report on the Leppington Triangle purchase.

**Enquiry**
Does the Department have a response to the federal Auditor General's findings about its purchase of the "Leppington Triangle" land

**Suggested response**

Deadline is 5pm today.

Thank you,

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

GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601

The department proudly acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Australia, and their continuing connections to the land, waters and communities. We pay our respects to them and to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Hi there,

Does the Department have a response to the federal Auditor General's findings about its purchase of the "Leppington Triangle" land?

Here's a link to the tabled report:


If so, can we please get a response by 5pm.
Best,

s47F
Good afternoon Dave and Greg

Please find the below enquiry from and our proposed response based on previously agreed talking points
I don’t feel the highlighted lines are required however have left in for consideration.
Happy to discuss.

**Enquiry**
This new auditor general report suggests the government overpaid $26m for the land purchased for western Sydney airport, Labor says.
Can you provide any comments by 5:30pm today?

**Suggested response**

Thank you for your enquiry

The Department notes and agrees with all recommendations made by the ANAO and is already taking action to address any shortcomings in processes and decision-making identified in relation to the Leppington Triangle acquisition.

The matters raised by the ANAO in the report are being investigated to ensure all necessary learning and appropriate action. This includes:

- An independent review of the transaction arrangements to ensure the findings of the audit are addressed, and
- Management reviews into matters of staff conduct identified by the ANAO, which will ensure the concerns raised are specifically addressed.

The Department has a strong record of operating and meeting the highest standards of integrity and ethics and we have immediately engaged Sententia Consulting Pty Ltd to undertake an assurance review and provide advice to the department on areas for improvement.

The department will also review existing frameworks and guidance on the requirements associated with developing proposals to spend public money in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013, and update accordingly.

Early acquisition in this case provided certainty to stakeholders for long term planning, has allowed Western Sydney Airport Company to plan effectively for the entire development of the Airport as identified in the Airport Plan, and has reduced the risk of future challenges on the Airport development.

The Department also notes the ANAO view the purchase could have been made at a much later date. However, the Department considers that:

- The acquisition of the Triangle represented the final parcel of land that needed to be acquired for the airport site, creating a complex market situation.
The acquisition of the Triangle came about alongside the establishment of the Western Sydney Airport Company and the public release of the Government’s Airport Plan which committed to a two-runway airport.

Hello

This new auditor general report suggests the government overpaid $26m for the land purchased for western Sydney airport, Labor says.


Can you please provide any comments by 530pm today?

Best Wishes,
ANAO report on purchase of “Leppington Triangle” land for the future development of Western Sydney Airport

Talking Points

Please note: All media enquiries are to be referred to media@infrastructure.gov.au

- The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications notes the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) report and agrees with all recommendations made.

- The Department is already taking action to address any shortcomings in processes and decision-making identified in relation to the Leppington Triangle acquisition.

- The Department has a strong record of operating and meeting the highest standards of integrity and ethics.

- The department has engaged Sententia Consulting Pty Ltd to undertake an assurance review and provide advice to the department on areas for improvement.

- The Department will review existing frameworks and guidance on the requirements associated with developing proposals to spend public money in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013, and update accordingly.

- The department will review probity and conflict of interest reporting.

- The matters raised by the ANAO in the report are being investigated to ensure all necessary learning and appropriate action. This includes:
  
  - An independent review of the transaction arrangements to ensure the findings of the audit are addressed, and
  
  - Management reviews into matters of staff conduct identified by the ANAO, which will ensure the concerns raised are specifically addressed.
• An external probity adviser will be appointed to support ongoing functions related to major projects and land acquisitions.

  ○ This probity adviser will assist with the development of guidance materials on obtaining purchase valuations in consultation with the Department of Finance, to ensure that protocols are in line with operations of the Lands Acquisition Act 1989.

The Department notes the ANAO view the purchase could have been made at a much later date. However, the Department considers that

  ○ The acquisition of the Triangle represented the final parcel of land that needed to be acquired for the airport site, creating a complex market situation.

  ○ The acquisition of the Triangle came about alongside the establishment of the Western Sydney Airport Company and the public release of the Government’s Airport Plan which committed to a two-runway airport.

  ○ Early acquisition provided certainty to stakeholders for long term planning, has allowed Western Sydney Airport Company to plan effectively for the entire development of the Airport as identified in the Airport Plan, and has reduced the risk of future challenges on the Airport development.

• The Department agrees that the valuation strategy was unorthodox, however, the strategy was designed to mitigate the risk of costly and lengthy legal challenges.

• As the report notes, the land-holding company had previously challenged land acquisitions at the airport site with the Department spending over 10 years in legal proceedings.

On the matter of ‘unethical behaviour’

• Noting a thorough response to the findings is underway and the complexity of the acquisition process, the Department is currently investigating the assertions in the report of “unethical behaviour” by its officers.

Background – Departmental response to recommendations

Recommendation 1

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications prepare comprehensive and balanced written analysis on the benefits, costs and risks of proposals to spend public money.
Department response

Agreed. The Department has existing frameworks and guidance on the requirements associated with developing proposals to spend public money in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013.

The Department will review and update existing material to ensure there is a clear requirement for comprehensive and balanced written analysis on the benefits, costs and risks to support proposals to spend public money, and particularly in regard to valuations and land acquisitions. All staff will be reminded of their responsibilities and updated guidance material will be made available to all staff and appropriate training provided.

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The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications put in place meeting and communication protocols for when staff engage directly with individual landowners, developers or similar parties with heightened probity risks. The protocols should: include guidelines regarding suitable venues; require the presence of at least two departmental representatives; and to require properly recorded minutes of meetings and conversations.

Department response

Agreed. The Department has established protocols on meeting with interested parties developed specifically for the Western Sydney Unit. The guidance is available to all staff. The Department will review the protocols to expand coverage to other areas of the Department.

These will include, at a minimum, guidelines regarding suitable venues; require the presence of at least two departmental representatives; and properly recorded minutes of meetings and conversations. Staff will be reminded of their responsibilities and appropriate training provided.

Recommendation 3

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications develop policies and procedures to govern its approach to obtaining purchase valuations.

Department response

Agreed. The Department will develop specific guidance materials on obtaining purchase valuations in consultation with the Department of Finance, to ensure that protocols are in line with operations of the Lands Acquisition Act 1989. All guidance material will be made available to staff and appropriate training provided.

Departmental contact

Greg Whalen I greg.whalen@infrastructure.gov.au 02 6274 7341,
The Australian has just posted

Government paid 10 times more than airport land value

The federal government spent nearly $30m purchasing a small parcel of land for the Western Sydney Airport despite it being valued at a 10th of the price, in an acquisition process that was unethical and inappropriate.

A scathing report published by the Australian National Audit Office on Monday also found the Department of Infrastructure paid 22 times more per hectare for the Leppington Triangle land in Bringelly, on the outskirts of Sydney, than the NSW government paid for its portion.

The land, which was owned by wealthy businessman Tony Perich and his family through their Leppington Pastoral Company dairy farm, was bought by the federal government in July 2018 for $29.8m with an expectation it would be needed in about 30 years when a second runway for the Western Sydney Airport was constructed.

Auditor-General Grant Hehir said the department’s operations during and after the acquisition “fell short of ethical standards” and an “appropriate” acquisition strategy was not developed.

Instead, the government was focused on “incentivising an unwilling seller to dispose of their land some 32 years in advance of when it was anticipated to be needed for the airport expansion, an approach at odds with the department asserting that early purchase allowed it to capitalise on ‘goodwill’ from the landowner”.

“The approach taken by the Department of Infrastructure to valuing the Leppington Triangle was not appropriate,” Mr Hehir said.

“The approach inflated the value of the land, which in turn led to the Australian government paying more than was proper in the circumstances.”
Below is a suggested shortened version of your response on the question about `what is the Department doing about the recos on staff?'

I have cleared this wording with Dave Hallinan. Can you please forward to [secure redacted] and copy us in.

Thanks,

Greg

“The Department has agreed to all recommendations in the report. It is also investigating matters of staff conduct identified by the ANAO. There is no question of Ministerial involvement. It goes to the administrative actions of the Department, more than two years ago.”
Spoke to [redacted] and he is taking a look at that line now and will come back to either Greg or I shortly.

Hi [redacted]

I understand that [redacted] has received a media enquiry in relation to the ANAO Report (relates to action the Department is taking against staff members identified in the ANAO Report). Greg has reminded him that these need to be referred to the Department so that responses can be coordinated, but in any event we have proposed the below line from our defensive TPs:

“The Department has instigated management reviews into matters of staff conduct identified by the ANAO, to ensure the concerns raised are specifically addressed. As this work is ongoing, it would be inappropriate to make further comment.”

Grateful if you could please touch base with [redacted] to confirm the request.

Kind regards,

Director - Government Business Office
Major Transport & Infrastructure Projects Division
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

w: www.infrastructure.gov.au
Thanks Dave.

Another enquiry coming your way for consideration momentarily.

That approach is fine by me. There’s a fair bit in the letter they can consider.

Thanks
Dave

Good afternoon Dave and Greg

We have received the following request from S47F regarding the recently tabled ANAO report on the Leppington Triangle purchase.

Enquiry
Does the Department have a response to the federal Auditor General’s findings about its purchase of the "Leppington Triangle" land

Suggested response
The department’s response to the Auditor General’s findings can be found at Appendices 1 of the tabled report - https://www.anao.gov.au/work/performance-audit/purchase-the-leppington-triangle-land-the-future-development-western-sydney-airport#29-0-appendices
Deadline is 5pm today.

Thank you,

GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601
The department proudly acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Australia, and their continuing connections to the land, waters and communities. We pay our respects to them and to their Elders past, present and emerging.

From: 47F
Sent: Monday, 21 September 2020 3:18 PM
To: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: Leppington Triangle audit

Hi there,

Does the Department have a response to the federal Auditor General's findings about its purchase of the "Leppington Triangle" land?

Here's a link to the tabled report:


If so, can we please get a response by 5pm.

Best,
Thanks Dave.

Another enquiry coming your way for consideration momentarily.

From: HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 21 September 2020 3:57 PM
To: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>; WHALEN Greg <Greg.Whalen@infrastructure.gov.au>
Cc: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>; infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Leppington Triangle audit [SEC=OFFICIAL]

That approach is fine by me. There’s a fair bit in the letter they can consider.

Thanks
Dave

From: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 21 September 2020 3:49 PM
To: HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>; WHALEN Greg <Greg.Whalen@infrastructure.gov.au>
Cc: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>; infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Leppington Triangle audit

Good afternoon Dave and Greg

We have received the following request from regarding the recently tabled ANAO report on the Leppington Triangle purchase.

Enquiry
Does the Department have a response to the federal Auditor General’s findings about its purchase of the “Leppington Triangle” land

Suggested response
The department’s response to the Auditor General’s findings can be found at Appendices 1 of the tabled report - https://www.anao.gov.au/work/performance-audit/purchase-the-leppington-triangle-land-the-future-development-western-sydney-airport#29-0-appendices
Deadline is 5pm today.

Thank you,

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

GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601
The department proudly acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Australia, and their continuing connections to the land, waters and communities. We pay our respects to them and to their Elders past, present and emerging.

From: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>
To: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: Leppington Triangle audit

Hi there,

Does the Department have a response to the federal Auditor General's findings about its purchase of the "Leppington Triangle" land?

Here's a link to the tabled report:


If so, can we please get a response by 5pm.
We’re good Greg. Minister is happy with the below and will use it for all related enquiries specifically seeking Ministerial comment.

Below is suggested shortened version of your response on the question about ‘what is the Department doing about the recos on staff?’

I have cleared this wording with Dave Hallinan. Can you please forward to and copy us in.

Thanks,

Greg

“The Department has agreed to all recommendations in the report. It is also investigating matters of staff conduct identified by the ANAO. There is no question of Ministerial involvement. It goes to the administrative actions of the Department, more than two years ago.”
Land near the Western Sydney airport is valued at a 10th of the price the federal govt paid for it.

A parcel of land bought by the federal government next to the proposed Western Sydney International Airport for just under $30 million in 2018 is now valued at $3 million, an audit has found.

The auditor-general said the infrastructure department had not shown appropriate due diligence in its purchase of the 12.26ha Leppington Triangle.
"In the course of this audit it became clear that aspects of the operations of the department, both during and after the acquisition, fell short of ethical standards," the auditor-general found in the report released on Monday.

The department's approach was focused on "incentivising an unwilling seller to dispose of their land some 32 years in advance of when it was anticipated to be needed".

As well, the auditor found the department's underlying analysis "overstated the identified benefits, did not quantify costs and did not address risks, and the acquisition approach eventually employed departed from the approved strategy".

The government expected it would require the land when a second runway was needed around 2050.

The problem began when the property owner suggested to the government the name of a valuer which was agreed to by the department.

"It was not made evident (in key briefings with decision makers) that the department intended to pay a per hectare rate some 20 times higher than that proposed by the NSW government for its portion of the Leppington Triangle."

The department agreed to the audit's recommendations to improve the way it gets valuations, prepare more detailed cost-benefit analyses and run proper meetings with landholders.
CATHERINE KING MP
SHADOW MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MEMBER FOR BALLARAT

SCATHING AUDITOR-GENERAL REPORT: $26.7M OVERSPEND ON DONOR’S $3M PIECE OF LAND

A Liberal Party donor is the beneficiary of a $26.7 million overspend on a piece of land valued at only $3 million purchased by the Liberal Government.

The Auditor-General has today released a scathing report into the Morrison Government’s $30m purchase of the Leppington Triangle, a 12.26 hectare triangle of land that in a few decades time may be used to build a second runway at Western Sydney Airport.

Astonishingly, just eleven months after completing the deal the Government itself valued the land at only $3m – a tenth of the price it had paid to the landowner.

The price paid per hectare by the Morrison Government was 22 times higher than the price paid by the NSW Government for it’s portion of the Leppington Triangle.

According to Department of Infrastructure records, the Morrison Government had undertaken nine valuations of the land. The purchase price was 4 times
higher than the highest of these valuations.

On the date of the purchase, the agricultural land was leased back to the seller, Leppington Pastoral Company, for ten years, with an option to renew for a further decade.

Leppington Pastoral Company has previously donated to the Liberal Party.

According to the Auditor-General:

“The Department of Infrastructure did not exercise appropriate due diligence in its acquisition of the Leppington Triangle land for the future development of the Western Sydney Airport. In the course of this audit it became clear that aspects of the operations of the department, both during and after the acquisition, fell short of ethical standards.”

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Population, Cities and Urban Infrastructure must immediately address these incredible findings and explain how his Government so comprehensively wasted Australian tax-payer’s money.

If Australians cannot trust the Morrison Government with this infrastructure spend, it will be impossible to trust them with future investments.

21 SEPTEMBER 2020

MEDIA CONTACT: NICK BEAVER 0419 709 266
Good afternoon Dave

As discussed, please see the below follow up and our suggested response for your edit and approval. Questions seeking when and how (parameters) the investigation will take place and if the findings will be released publicly will drive a further media cycle.

I’ve placed a holding line below for consideration in highlight.

**Enquiry**

1. What is the process of investigation you are undertaking?
2. Will this involve an external investigation? Is it appropriate for the dept to be investigating itself?
3. Does the phrase "individual breaches of integrity" indicate the department believes there is a prima facie case that its officers breached legislation/guidelines/their employment contracts?
4. How many departmental officials are being investigated? Have they been suspended? What levels of public servant are being investigated?
5. Who was the delegate/decision-maker?

**Suggested response from a departmental spokesperson**

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications acknowledges the findings of the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) and has agreed to all recommendations contained in the report.

The matters raised by the ANAO in the report are being investigated to ensure all necessary learning and appropriate action, and the Department has already committed to implementing the changes outlined in our response to the audit to ensure this does not happen again.

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. **This investigation will commence within xx days/weeks, with the department to make further statements on the findings in due course.**

The Department has also engaged Sententia Consulting Pty Ltd to undertake an independent assurance review and provide advice to the department on areas for improvement. An external probity adviser will be appointed to support ongoing functions related to major projects and land acquisitions. This probity adviser will assist with the development of guidance materials on obtaining purchase valuations in consultation with the Department of Finance, to ensure that protocols are in line with operations of the Lands Acquisition Act 1989.

The Department will not pre-empt these reviews by commenting on possible outcomes at this time.

**Background:**

Kind regards

Director | Media Services
Communication Branch | Communication and IT Division
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications
GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601
The department proudly acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Australia, and their continuing connections to the land, waters and communities. We pay our respects to them and to their Elders past, present and emerging.

From: [47F]
Sent: Tuesday, 22 September 2020 11:57 AM
To: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: Leppington Triangle audit report

Hi,

I'm writing a follow-up on the Leppington Triangle ANAO report.

I'm particularly interested in this in the department's response:

In light of the allegation of individual breaches of integrity, the matters raised by the ANAO in the report are being investigated to ensure all such matters are fully understood and appropriate action can be taken.

Could I please ask:

- What is the process of investigation you are undertaking?
- Will this involve an external investigation? Is it appropriate for the dept to be investigating itself?
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- How many departmental officials are being investigated? Have they been suspended? What levels of public servant are being investigated?
Hi Greg. Can you please give me a call when you have a moment?

Attached below is the Department’s response to your earlier question about the ANAO Report on Leppington Triangle.

Regards,

Greg

---

Q. Was the Infrastructure Minister involved in the approval of the land purchase for Leppington Triangle?
   A. The approval of the purchase was undertaken by Departmental officials. The Minister was briefed on the process and Department's final approval of the transaction.
From: WHALEN Greg <Greg.Whalen@infrastructure.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 22 September 2020 5:48 PM
To: WHALEN Greg; Media (Infrastructure)
Cc: HALLINAN David; LEGG Robyn
Subject: FW: URGENT: Media Enquiry - Leppington Triangle and The Northern Road [SEC=OFFICIAL]

The amended words below are cleared to be released.

Thanks,
Greg

From: HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 22 September 2020 5:44 PM
To: WHALEN Greg <Greg.Whalen@infrastructure.gov.au>
Cc: HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>; LEGG Robyn <Robyn.Legg@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: Re: URGENT: Media Enquiry - Leppington Triangle and The Northern Road [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Approved as below.

Dave
Dave,

For your clearance. I’m comfortable with this wording (subject to making the minor edits highlighted in green).

Thanks,

Greg

From: "WHALEN Greg" <Greg.Whalen@infrastructure.gov.au>
Date: Tuesday, 22 September 2020 at 5:36:24 pm
To: "HALLINAN David" <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: RE: URGENT: Media Enquiry - Leppington Triangle and The Northern Road [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good afternoon all

Apologies for the last-minute approval request – we receive this one from the quite late and have been gathering the relevant background.

QUESTIONS

1. Have any employees faced any consequences for the behaviour detailed in the report?
2. Will the Department be proceeding with the Northern Road realignment closer to the airport?
3. Will the Department be proceeding with the $10m underpass detailed on page 33?

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 is not appropriate for the department to identify or make comment on individuals during independent investigations.
Stage 4 of The Northern Road Upgrade has been planned and delivered in partnership with the NSW Government. It is one of six stages in total to be funded under the joint Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan.

The underpass referred to in the ANAO report has been built, and Stage 4 is expected to be fully open to traffic next month. The road has been open as a single carriageway since April 2020, with the dual carriageway set to open in the coming weeks.

Thanks and regards,

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

The department proudly acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Australia, and their continuing connections to the land, waters and communities. We pay our respects to them and to their Elders past, present and emerging.

From: [name]
Sent: Tuesday, 22 September 2020 2:50 PM
To: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: Media Enquiry

Hello

I have the following question in relation to the ANOA's report into the Purchase of the Leppington Triangle:

- Have any employees faced any consequences for the behaviour detailed in the report?
- Will the Department be proceeding with the Northern Road realignment closer to the airport?
- Will the Department be proceeding with the $10m underpass detailed on page 33?

My deadline is 5pm.

Thank you
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Media Manager
Media Services
Communication Branch
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

Australian Government
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**Enquiry**

1. What is the process of investigation you are undertaking?
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I'm particularly interested in this in the department's response:

In light of the allegation of individual breaches of integrity, the matters raised by the ANAO in the report are being investigated to ensure all such matters are fully understood and appropriate action can be taken.

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- How many departmental officials are being investigated? Have they been suspended? What levels of public servant are being investigated?

Thanks for considering.

Kind regards,
Hi Greg. Can you please give me a call when you have a moment?

From: WHALEN Greg <Greg.Whalen@infrastructure.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 22 September 2020 8:17 AM
To: nfrastructure.gov.au>; HALLINAN David <David.Hallinan@infrastructure.gov.au>; infrastructure.gov.au>
Cc: @infrastructure.gov.au>; infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Question from PMO [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Attached below is the Department’s response to your earlier question about the ANAO Report on Leppington Triangle.

Regards,

Greg

Greg Whalen
Acting First Assistant Secretary
Major Transport and Infrastructure Projects
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications
GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601
t 02 6274 7341 | e greg.whalen@infrastructure.gov.au | w www.infrastructure.gov.au

Q. Was the Infrastructure Minister involved in the approval of the land purchase for Leppington Triangle?
   A. The approval of the purchase was undertaken by Departmental officials. The Minister was briefed on the process and Department’s final approval of the transaction.
Hi Greg and David

Seeking your approval please of the following response, if possible by 3pm today.

QUESTION:

Does the department intend to take any further action, including referral to any law-enforcement bodies, following the ANAO report on the Western Sydney Airport land purchase?

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.

The first three lines are from similar enquiries yesterday, however the highlighted is a slight tweak.

Many thanks in advance,
The department proudly acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Australia, and their continuing connections to the land, waters and communities. We pay our respects to them and to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Hello there,

Does the department intend to take any further action, including referral to any law-enforcement bodies, following the ANAO report on the Western Sydney Airport land purchase?

Many thanks,

s47F

s47F

s47F

s47F

s47F

s47F
Hi Dave

Outstanding enquiries all in one place, in anticipation of a discussion shortly:

1. Confirming Luke Yeaman was the deputy secretary of the Department of Infrastructure for the infrastructure group (with responsibility for the Western Sydney Unit) in July 2018 when the Leppington Triangle was purchased?
2. Does Mr Yeaman take full responsibility for the acquisition?
3. Does Mr Yeaman regret purchasing the land for $29.8m when it was valued at just $3.1m 11 months later?
4. Was Mr Yeaman fully aware of the valuation and acquisition process conducted by the department?
5. Did Mr Yeaman know the purchase price exceeded all known market valuations of the land?
6. Was Mr Yeaman satisfied with the briefings his officers provided him about the land?
7. Does Mr Yeaman believe the department exercised due diligence in its acquisition of the land?
8. Does Mr Yeaman believe the operations of the department were at times unethical?
9. Does Mr Yeaman believe the acquisition was value for taxpayers' money?

1. What is the status of the investigation into allegations of individual breaches of integrity raised by the ANAO? When did the department start this investigation? When does it expect to finish it?
2. What are the legal costs incurred by the department in the more than 10 years of legal proceedings involving the land-holding company challenging acquisitions at the airport site? Does this include paying any costs that courts may have awarded the land-holders?
3. Have the former secretary's records regarding the airport land acquisition and Leppington Triangle specifically been retained? Did he keep personal notebooks or diaries that may have contained details of meetings that were destroyed when he left the public service?
4. is the infrastructure department aware of any other purchases or deals that were similarly (in the words of the minister Fletcher) “concealed” from senior officials or the department?
5. minister Fletcher says he was not notified of the scale of the deal for the Leppington Triangle, and only became aware of the price finally paid when the ANAO report was released. Is this correct? Was the minister not informed of the deal’s details by the department?
6. what is the threshold (if one exists) for a payment or purchase before it is escalated to the minister for approval and/or notification?
7. is the department concerned that other purchases or deals may have been made in similar ways, without proper notification or approval from senior officials?
8. does the department believe this Leppington Triangle episode was an isolated case?
9. what action has the department taken internally, in relation to this matter?

1. Just to clarify, is the department stating that an independent investigator and an independent auditor have been appointed?
Many thanks,

Media Manager
Media Services
Communication Branch
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications
GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601

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Offical

Thanks Dave.

Approved. With thanks

Dave

Hi Greg and David

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

www.infrastructure.gov.au
GPO Box 594, Canberra
ACT 2601

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OFFICIAL

From: [s47F]
Sent: Wednesday, 23 September 2020 11:34 AM
To: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>
Subject: Media inquiry

Hello there,

Does the department intend to take any further action, including referral to any law-enforcement bodies, following the ANAO report on the Western Sydney Airport land purchase?

Many thanks,
Hi Greg.

I just spoke with Dave who has updated me on this front.

NFA from you guys at this time.

Have a great day.

Director | Media Services  
Communication Branch  
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications  
GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601

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Thanks. I'll call shortly to discuss updates to TPs.

Greg
Good morning Dave and Greg

Please find the attached media coverage report from the past 24 hours.
No further enquiries have come through since yesterday afternoon.

Our Finance colleagues have also reached out this morning seeking an update to our talking points. The request (we believe) stems from a conversation with Dave and his equivalent last night.

Thank you

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

GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601
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Hi

As requested, please find attached updated maps that show the Leppington Triangle. Both maps are publicly available in the WSA Airport Plan (2016), with the exception of the label that we have inserted – one shows current airport layout and the second shows the indicative future layout with second runway.

Thanks,
Hi all

Drawing your attention to the below enquiry we have just received.

Greg/David – is happy to meet to discuss approach.

Thanks,
Hi there

I’m getting in touch about the ANAO report into the ‘Leppington Triangle’ released this week

At a press conference this morning, minister Paul Fletcher told me that questions about whether other similar deals may have taken place would be questions for the department. I wanted to put a few questions to the department for a story I’m writing

I understand the department supplied a lengthy response that was included in the ANAO report, but if you’d be able to supply any information or comment to the below questions, that’d be much appreciated

Thanks for your time

QUESTIONS
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Media Manager  
Media Services |  
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Department of  
Infrastructure, Transport,  
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www.infrastructure.gov.au  
GPO Box 594, Canberra  
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To: Media (Infrastructure) <media@infrastructure.gov.au>  
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