

CONFIDENTIAL
DECLASSIFIED

Date: 03 January 2006

To: PS

**IRAQ: PROPOSED CHANGES TO TRAVEL IN SOUTHERN IRAQ FOR HMG
CIVILIAN STAFF**

1. Dr Howells has considered submission dated 19 December 2005 (received in Dr Howells' office on 23 December) about a change to the security rules for HMG diplomatic and civilian staff travel in Southern Iraq.
2. After reading the Senior Overseas Security Adviser's report, Dr Howells agrees with the recommendations in paragraph three of the submission, with the proviso that these security rules are subject to regular review.
3. Dr Howells would like further clarification on the frequency of these reviews, who they will be conducted by and who will they be reported to. Staff security must be taken extremely seriously and Dr Howells would like to be kept informed of developments. He would also like any feedback on security procedures resulting from the visit of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Stephanie Al-Qaq

Stephanie Al-Qaq
Assistant Private Secretary to Kim Howells

Tel:

Cc: PS/PUS
John Sawers
Dickie Stagg
Dominic Asquith

David Warren
Lindy Cameron

Andrew Noble

James Tansley
William Patey

CONFIDENTIAL
DECLASSIFIED