

Senate Finance and Public Administration References Committee

**Written Questions on Notice from Senator O'Neill
to Sayers Group**

1. When did former Finance Minister Mathias Cormann become a shareholder of Sayers Group?

Mr Cormann became a shareholder in December 2020.

2. Did anyone from Sayers Group have any interactions with Mathias Cormann when he was a parliamentarian?

No.

3. Was the entity of Sayers Group discussed with Mathias Cormann while he was a parliamentarian?

No.

4. How was Mathias Cormann made aware of the opportunity to invest in Sayers Group?

- a. Were any pre-investment meetings/correspondence had with Mathias Cormann? If so please provide a timeline of these interactions?
- b. Were any prospectives, slides or meeting notes created before or after any such meeting for the purpose of encouraging Mathias Cormann to invest?

In the period after retiring as Finance Minister and before taking on the job as OECD Secretary-General, Mr Cormann did some work for Sayers Group, then a start-up advisory and investment business in the process of establishment.

As part of the remuneration arrangements, also in anticipation of him joining Sayers Group as a founding partner, had the application to become OECD Secretary-General been unsuccessful, he was provided with a small equity share. Mr Cormann has since relinquished that small equity share.

5. Has Sayers Group had any correspondence with the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD)?

No.

6. Has Sayers Group been party to any contract that involved the OECD in some capacity?

No.

7. Is Sayers Group aware of any obligations that Mathias Cormann's investment may have on his role as Secretary General of the OECD?

No.

8. Please provide details of what the Sayers Advisory and Investments P/L's contract with the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission under the CN ID CN3732971.

- a. Please provide details of the tendering process considering AusTender lists it as a 'limited tender'.
- b. Was this contract discussed by any members of Sayers Group with any Ministers or Federal Parliamentarians, including but not limited to Mattias Cormann, Peter Dutton or their staff?
- c. Can Sayers Group please account for their first Federal contract being that of a 'limited tender'.

A specific Sayers employee was requested by the Chief Information Officer of the Australian Criminal Intelligence Agency to work on a six-week project in November and December 2020. The procurement was a limited tender given it was coverage while a full-time person could be sourced for the role. No further work has been undertaken by Sayers with this agency.

The contract was managed by the Sayers Canberra team, and not discussed externally with any parliamentarian.

18 December 2023

ENDS