



Select Committee on the 2026 Commonwealth Games Bid

Hearing Date: 5 December 2023

Questions taken on notice

Directed to: Ernst & Young

Received Date: 22 December 2023

1. **Joe McCracken, page 5**

Question Asked to Leigh Walker:

Joe McCracken: ... in preparation for today's hearings, has anyone really had any contact with the Premier's private office, any minister or ministerial office or I guess anyone external to your organisations?

Leigh Walker: I can answer that. On behalf of EY we have not, other than we confirmed with our client that the confidentiality obligations still exist, and I believe there was a letter that was given to the committee that outlines that. So we have had that confirmation.

Joe McCracken: And that is it?

Leigh Walker: Obviously we have had brief discussions with our fellow team members.

Joe McCracken: Is that in writing or was it –

Leigh Walker: Yes, it was.

Joe McCracken: Can we have a copy of that, please?

Response: Please see attached a copy of this correspondence.

2. **Joe McCracken, page 6**

Question Asked to Dean Yates:

Are you able to provide us with any dates subsequent to that when you were commissioned to do any other work and also a list of dates when you met with the department or any department officials or ministerial advisers or anyone like that? Are you able to do that?

Response: EY did not meet with any Ministerial advisers. We would refer questions about further engagements and meetings with Departmental officials to the Department.

As per the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions' questionnaire response to this Committee, EY provided the following consulting work:

Project title and description	Start date
Stage 1 - 2026 Commonwealth Games Hosting Advice	11/11/2021
Progression of Stage 2, 3 and 4 advisory services for the Victoria 2026 Commonwealth Games	11/01/2022
Interim project management office support	01/04/2023

3. **Joe McCracken, page 6**

Question Asked to Dean Yates:

Joe McCracken: Do you have any meeting notes from the times that you did engage with your client the department then?

Dean Yates: We will take that on notice. We would have –

Joe McCracken: I was going to say if you do have any notes, can you provide them to us?

Dean Yates: Yes. We will take that on notice.

Response: We are unable to release private meeting notes recorded by individual team members.

4. **Joe McCracken, page 7**

Question Asked to Dean Yates:

Joe McCracken: Okay. I understand that you work with both, as it was then, DJPR, and DTF officials. Who exactly did you work with there?

Dean Yates: Well, it was a whole range of departmental officials. It was quite a number of people within – it was a relatively small group –

Joe McCracken: Do you remember any of the names at all?

Dean Yates: I mean, our client was basically the department and Visit Victoria and sport and rec, which sits within the department. So we engaged with a number of people there. We will take that on notice and give you the –

...

Leigh Walker: It was the department. We will have to take it on notice on the specific name.

Joe McCracken: So you are happy to provide that on notice?

Dean Yates: We are happy to provide on notice the communication around the initial engagement.

Joe McCracken: And who asked you to do that. Okay. In response to a question on 9 October 2023, the Secretary of DJSIR, as it now is, indicated that it is usual practice for the procuring department to determine the scope of works for that procurement. Can you advise us what EY's brief from the two departments actually was?

Dean Yates: We can definitely provide you with that scope.

Response: We have requested permission to release this scope of work from the department but have not received permission to release it.

5. **Michael Galea, page 9**
Question Asked to Dean Yates:

Michael Galea: I think you said in response to the Chair but also in your opening remarks that you had around 20 years of experience with these sorts of business cases for major sporting events. You cited other Commonwealth Games and the grand prix as well. Can you talk me through what that experience would look like? Do you have any case examples that are in the public domain that you are able to share? I realise that there may be some, if not many, that you may not, but can you point me to any other examples of similar work that Ernst & Young has completed in this space over that 20-year period, obviously ideally Australia-based but even internationally?

Dean Yates: A lot of the work that we do is kept confidential by clients. The particular angle you are taking there we might take on notice ...

Response: EY has had significant experience undertaking business cases and economic assessment of major sporting events both in Australia and internationally. Below is a list of example reports that are in the public domain:

- Cost benefit analysis of the Calgary 2026 Draft Hosting Plan Concept (link [here](#))
- Economic impact assessment of the 2011 Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix (link [here](#))
- Economic impact assessment of the 2022 Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix (link [here](#))
- Economic impact assessment of the 2023 Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix (link [here](#))
- Economic impact assessments of the Newcastle 500 Supers event for 2017, 2018 and 2019 (link [here](#))

- Economic impact assessment of 2021 UCI World Championship and UCI World Cup events (link [here](#))
- Economic impact assessment of 2022 UCI World Championship events (link [here](#))
- Live Performance Australia Ticket Attendance and Revenue Report (link to these reports published annually between 2007 and 2022 [here](#))

6. **David Davis, page 10-11**

Question Asked to Dean Yates:

David DAVIS: Thank you, Mr Yates and Ms Walker for your testimony to date. I have got a few questions here for you. There was reference to a steering committee. You, as I understand it, as this business case was being developed, were responding to a steering committee. Correct?

Dean YATES: There were governance structures within the department on the whole project.

...

David DAVIS: And who was on that?

Dean YATES: Once again, I think I might need to take it on notice, as to the full membership.

David DAVIS: You were at some of the meetings. Tell me some of the people, please.

Response: We would refer questions regarding the Department's Steering Committee to the department.

[Redacted]

Subject: RE: OFFICIAL: RE: Inquiry into Australia's preparedness to host Commonwealth, Olympic and Paralympic Games

From: [Redacted]

Sent: Wednesday, November 29, 2023 3:49 PM

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: OFFICIAL: RE: Inquiry into Australia's preparedness to host Commonwealth, Olympic and Paralympic Games

OFFICIAL

Hi [Redacted],

Whilst the invitation from the inquiry is a matter for you to consider, we do not waive our confidentiality and non-disclosure rights under our contract(s) with you.

Furthermore, we refer you to the Premier's letter to the Select Committee dated 7 October 2023 (https://new.parliament.vic.gov.au/4ac01b/contentassets/d0c5df70339f426cb84db2c66e2252eb/20231009-premier--executive-privilege-and-evidence-provided_redacted.pdf). In contemplating the invitation and any responses you may give, you and your legal adviser (if applicable) must also consider the contents of the letter and the particulars of the services which you provided.

Thanks,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

sport.vic.gov.au
Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions
121 Exhibition Street, Melbourne Victoria 3000

www.djsir.vic.gov.au



OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, 28 November 2023 11:43 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: OFFICIAL: RE: Inquiry into Australia's preparedness to host Commonwealth, Olympic and Paralympic Games

Hi [REDACTED]

Further to our discussion a couple of weeks ago regarding our invitation to appear at the Parliament of Victoria's inquiry into the 2026 Commonwealth Games Bid, can you please confirm that as per the previous Federal inquiry, and as advised below, that once again you will not waiver our confidentiality and non-disclosure rights under our contract with you.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 3:44 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: OFFICIAL: RE: Inquiry into Australia's preparedness to host Commonwealth, Olympic and Paralympic Games

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED], thank you for your email.

Whilst the invitation from the inquiry is a matter for you to consider, we do not waive our confidentiality and non-disclosure rights under our contract with you.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



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OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 17 August 2023 9:52 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Inquiry into Australia's preparedness to host Commonwealth, Olympic and Paralympic Games

Hi [REDACTED]

As recently discussed, EY has been invited to appear at the public hearing of the inquiry into Australia's preparedness to host Commonwealth, Olympic and Paralympic Games. The federal inquiry is being conducted by the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee and the hearing is scheduled for Monday, 28 August 2023.

We understand from public commentary, that the Committee is seeking to obtain details from EY in relation to the business case development for Victoria's bid for the 2026 Commonwealth Games. As our engagement with Sport and Recreation Victoria was conducted under strict confidentiality and non-disclosure requirements under the Professional Advisory Services Master Service Agreement, we are seeking written permission from you to discuss information in the business case publicly in order for us to participate in this hearing. Should this permission not be granted by you, EY will decline the invitation to participate in the public hearing.

Please give me a call if you would like to discuss this request in further detail.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

Website: <http://www.ey.com>

Thank you for considering the environmental impact of printing this email.

[REDACTED]

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