

PERTH MARKET AUTHORITY — MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD —
CONFLICT OF INTEREST

1468. Hon KATE DOUST to the Minister for Agriculture and Food:

I refer to the minister's statement to the house on Tuesday.

- (1) Why did the minister not disclose his conflict of interest before stating, "Market City offers a significant opportunity for private sector investment in WA's thriving fruit and vegetable industry"?
- (2) Why did the minister not disclose his conflict of interest before stating, "I believe that private sector ownership of the market will allow it to raise capital to expand its operations, such as further developing its cold storage facilities"?
- (3) Why did the minister not disclose his conflict of interest before stating, "I believe that private ownership of the market will help open up new export opportunities that currently are not available and that will benefit our 500 fruit and vegetable growers"?

Hon KEN BASTON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

- (1)–(3) There is no need to declare any potential conflict of interest to Parliament. The Ministerial Code of Conduct requires that I disclose any potential conflicts to cabinet, which I have done. In addition, I have excluded myself from cabinet discussion and any other discussion about the sale of this asset, and referred all questions on this matter to the Treasurer. Therefore, I am confident that I have followed the Ministerial Code of Conduct.