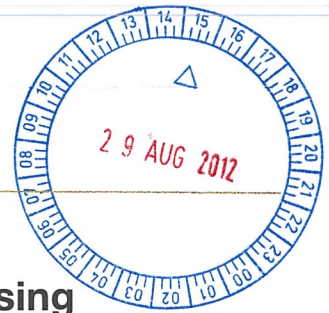




PUBLIC



**The Hon Terry Redman MLA
Minister for Agriculture and Food; Forestry; Housing**

Our ref: 39-18585

Ms Samantha Parsons
Committee Clerk
Estimates and Financial Operations Committee
Legislative Council
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Ms Parsons

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – 2012/13 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ESTIMATES
HEARING**

I refer to the letter dated 23 August 2012 providing the Minister's response to questions asked at the appearance of the Forest Products Commission (FPC) at the Estimates and Financial Operations Committee 2012/13 Annual Budget Estimates hearing on Monday, 6 August 2012.

That letter requested that the information provided regarding overdue debts in Attachment 3 of the responses to questions on notice be kept confidential.

To support this request I highlight to the Committee the finding of the Auditor General tabled in Parliament on 25 May 2011 in response to a section 82 enquiry (page 30), quote

"In our view, disclosing the names of customers that owe a debt to the FPC may cause some embarrassment, but there is not a high risk of causing a significant commercial disadvantage to those customers.

A high risk would exist if the amount owed by individual customers was disclosed. Revealing the level of debt of a business in isolation of other financial data could present an incorrect view of the financial viability of that business."

Yours sincerely

**CARISSA BUCKLAND
CHIEF OF STAFF**

29 AUG 2012