

Richard Ellis: Exxon Mobil senior public affairs adviser. Used to be Liberal Perth division president and Colin Barnett's chief-of-staff.

Sarah Browne: FTI Consulting Perth

director of public affairs. Mr Barnett

is fond of his switched-on former

policy officer.



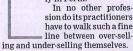
Emiliano Barzotto: TBH Niche managing director. Michelle Roberts' former CoS retains links with the public service.



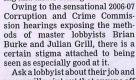


Blair Stratton: Synergy general manager of strategy and corporate affairs. Had a reputation as a head-kicker as CoS to Peter Collier.





minister's desk.





a hearing.

But if it were that easy, there would be no need for lobbyists at all, which is why biographies on their websites are quick to point out what previous government

roles they have occupied.

The message is unwritten but clear: "Retain us and we can get you that 'in'."



In the second instalment of the Gatekeepers and

Emerson investigates which West Australians can

between a business proposition getting on to the

get access to the decision makers in the State Government. Highly valued by business, these influence peddlers can make the difference

Cabinet table and not even making it on to a

Influence Peddlers special report, **Daniel**

The nod and wink has substance too, because the lobbying outfits which rise to the top during any given electoral cycle are the ones with the strongest links with whi-

chever side of politics is in power. It is no-coincidence that the most successful lobbyists during the La-bor years were the party's former premier and powerbroker, Mr Burke, and a member of the cabinet he led, Mr Grill.

These days, the leading firm is

GRA Everingham, headed by for-mer Liberal State director Paul Everingham, whose father was once the party's national president and the Northern Territory's chief minister.

Parliamentary documents show GRA Everingham had contact with the Premier's office 48 times last year alone, as well as with the offices of ministers Troy Buswell (18 times) and Bill Marmion (12). Another operative with good ac-

cess to the Government is Casey Cahill, Perth director of Kreab & Gavin Anderson, a former spin doctor for Liberal Party elder and for-

mer premier Richard Court. FTI Consulting employs Sarah Browne, its astute strategic director of corporate and public affairs, who happens to be the niece of Noel Crichton-Browne and used to work in Colin Barnett's office.

Lobbyists on the winning side of politics say they get better access to government simply because whoever is in power needs to trust they will not leak to the Opposition.

But those on the wrong side com-plain bitterly that the government of the day keeps their ex-colleagues on the teat in a version of "jobs for the boys"

Parliament is currently debating laws strengthening the regulation of lobbying, which the Barnett Go vernment introduced after savaging the close links between the former government and Messrs Burke



Mike Smith: Synergy and iiNet

chairman. Has a background in

strategic consultancy spanning five

Joanne Webber: Chamber of Minerals and Energy media and public affairs manager. Mr Barnett's media advisor until 2011.



David Utting: David Utting Corporate

proprietor. Former West journo

operates a boutique Nedlands

consultancy.

Deidre Willmott: FMG's external relations director. As the Premier's CoS, she understood the workings of government like few others.



Megan Anwyl: Magnetite Network executive director. The former ALP Kalgoorlie MP heads the magnetite industry group.



John Halden: Halden Burns principal. Former ALP State secretary. Deals mostly with Federal and SA Labor.



Fay Duda: Duda and Wills Consulting managing director. Well-connected as the Liberals' Perth division president.



Paul Plowman: Plowman and Co managing director, Mr Barnett's



Glen Kelly: South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council chairman.



Richard Court: KPMG special



Kim Keogh: Atlas Iron consultant. Was WA Liberal Party president



Paul Murray: 6PR Morning Show host. The West Australian columnist. The former editor of The West takes