HOME LENDING IN NSW JUMPS IN DECEMBER

NSW is leading the nation in home lending according to new figures from the Australian Bureau of Statistics today.

The ABS said the total value of new borrowing by those buying their own homes in NSW rose by 4.5% in December 2010 to $5.03 billion.

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, said this is the highest increase of any state or territory and well above the national rise of 2.5%,” the Minister said.

“The number of new home loans in NSW rose by 4.8% to more than 16,000 in December – more than double the national rise of 2.1% and the equal highest increase (with Tasmania).

“This is a strong result for NSW and follows the 16.7% jump in building approvals for NSW in December – also the biggest increase of all the states and territories and almost double the national rise of 8.7%.

“This indicates housing development in NSW is responding well to the initiatives this Government has put in place to boost construction.”

They include:

- Abolishing stamp duty for homes purchased off the plan costing up to $600,000;
- Introducing a $20,000 per lot cap on local government imposed levies in most established areas;
- Extending the lapsing period for council-assessed developments to five years (from two years), giving builders more time to arrange finance and market their development;
- Rezoning enough land in Sydney to meet our housing needs in new release areas for the next 10 years to ensure supply exceeds demand;
- Establishing a Land and Housing Supply Coordination Taskforce to examine the entire housing delivery chain to identify areas where more attention is needed and where the Government may need to get involved;
- Slashing, in December 2008, State levies by up to $27,000 per lot in Sydney’s Growth Centres, where greenfield housing construction is concentrated; and
- Allowing developers to defer payment of the State Infrastructure Contribution until after sales have been made, if they wish.
MEDIA RELEASE

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Minister for Infrastructure
Minister for Lands
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Leader of the House in the Legislative Council