



# **The Hon Brad Hazzard MP**

## **Minister for Planning & Infrastructure**

### **Minister assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Thursday June 23, 2011

### **Government opens door to ease housing crisis**

**The Liberal and Nationals Government has today announced a reduction in State Infrastructure Contributions (SIC) will be extended for six months to allow a review of the levy reduction introduced by the former Labor Government.**

“My message to developers is – the new Government wants them to do business in NSW and reverse Labor’s legacy of the lowest housing starts in 50 years,” said Planning and Infrastructure Minister, Brad Hazzard.

“But it may be a case of ‘use it or lose it’.

“Labor failed to develop comprehensive plans to address the stalled housing market in NSW.

“They contributed to the death of the market by introducing an ‘Exit Tax’ and then a ‘Transfer Tax’.

“Labor just didn’t understand what was needed to stimulate the economy.

“The one effort they made – reducing State Infrastructure Contributions – was given after driving new housing providers out of the state.

“As a result the Liberal and Nationals Government are instigating a review of the State Infrastructure Contributions and related issues.

“We will examine the efficiency of the SIC and determine the best approach to supporting industry in building new homes.

“New housing opportunities are what NSW families need to put downward pressure on housing costs.

“The Government will continue the reduction in SIC while the review takes place.

**“Our message to housing providers over this six months extension is – COME AND BUILD AND THIS GOVERNMENT WILL BACK YOU!**

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