



# **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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6 February 2012

### **COUNCILS GRANTED TIME EXTENSION FOR HOUSING REVIEW**

Councils have been given additional time to provide feedback on a review of proposed major new housing sites.

“I’ve written to 18 councils who have sites covered by this review to let them know they have extra time to provide their views,” Minister for Planning and Infrastructure Brad Hazzard said today.

“Councils were originally asked by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure to respond by Friday 3 February.

“I’ve received feedback from a number of councils that this wouldn’t have allowed councillors to consider the sites at their first meeting of the year.

“As such, I’ve extended the time for feedback so that councils can respond as soon as possible after their February meetings.

“This Government came to office with a commitment to return planning powers to local councils and communities and we are fulfilling that commitment.”

Minister Hazzard also addressed some of the unwarranted scare-mongering being made about the review of 43 landowner-nominated sites.

“We’re not going to release any land for housing unless there is sufficient infrastructure in place – full stop,” Mr Hazzard said.

“The former Labor Government denied Sydney the housing it needed by declaring Sydney was full and now in Opposition Labor is trying to derail this process with further misinformation.

“We’ve established a rigorous and transparent evaluation process and ensured that no housing will be rezoned unless there’s been full public consultation.”

A question and answer document providing more information about the process can be viewed at [www.planning.nsw.gov.au](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au)

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