MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW HOUSING APPROVALS REACH SEVEN YEAR HIGH

NSW Government measures to boost housing are delivering thousands more homes for families across the State.

“Figures released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) reveal new housing approvals in NSW in the 12 month period to February 2013 (37,718 dwellings) are the highest than at any time since October 2005,” Planning and Infrastructure Minister Brad Hazzard said.

“The dramatic increase in housing since the Coalition came to office is a great result for new homebuyers, a great result for builders and tradespeople, and a great result for the NSW economy.

“The ABS figures show that since the election of the Coalition, the resurgent housing sector in NSW has been outperforming the rest of Australia in new housing approvals.

“Across Australia housing approvals have dropped three per cent since April 2011 (when compared to the five year average) while NSW approvals have increased by over eight per cent.

“New housing approvals under the NSW Coalition Government are now on average 15 per cent higher than in the last five years of the NSW Labor government.

“It is fantastic to see the housing approval results for NSW flow from targeted Government policy and record investment in infrastructure to support growth.

“The latest figures come off the back of the recent announcement of the NSW Government of the biggest new housing program for Sydney in decades.

“The new program, Homes and Jobs for Sydney’s Growth, will see up to 172,000 new homes delivered under new initiatives from the Government.”

“The NSW Government is committed to delivering where Labor failed and ensure there are thousands more housing opportunities for families across NSW,” Mr Hazzard said.

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