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EMBARGOED MEDIA RELEASE
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SYDNEY’S HOUSING HOTSPOTS REVEALED

Two former industrial areas and a celebrated new western Sydney estate were among the top 20 hot spots for new housing in Sydney during 2012.

Department of Planning and Infrastructure figures released today show new housing production rose 19 per cent last year.

“These figures give us important insight into where new homes are being built and the improvement in housing production across the city,” Planning and Infrastructure Minister Brad Hazzard said.

“There is a mix of new housing construction in existing suburbs and new release areas which emphasises the NSW Government’s commitment to drive measures that deliver greater choice.

“That choice includes having housing near transport and job opportunities, as outlined in the Government’s draft Metropolitan Strategy.”

Green Square (895 new homes) and Rhodes (816 new homes) topped the list of growth locations.

Both are former industrial estates, with Rhodes in particular transformed into a bustling new community close to jobs, open space and transport.

The third highest growth location is The Ponds at Blacktown (721 new homes), which has been identified as Sydney’s most economically and socially advantaged suburb by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Overall, 18,363 new homes were completed across Sydney during 2012, an increase of 19 per cent on 2011’s figure (15,468). It is also well above the 14,652 dwellings completed under Labor in 2010.

“It is pleasing that there’s been an overall increase in home production as this helps ease pressure on prices,” Mr Hazzard said.

“We are cutting red tape to reduce delays and this will be expanded in the overhaul of the NSW planning system.”

The figures have been sourced from the four Metropolitan Development Program quarterly reports for 2012.
Meanwhile, the new January 2013 monthly Metropolitan Development Program monitor – also released today - shows continued improvement in new housing approvals in Sydney with:

- 2,623 new homes approved in January 2013 (nearly 60 per cent increase on the same month last year when 1,654 homes were approved)
- Average monthly approvals up 21.5 per cent in first seven months of financial year 2012-13 (2,470 homes), compared to 2,032 in 2011-12

Overall, Sydney’s dwelling approvals for 2012-13 are tracking as the highest since 2003-04.

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure’s quarterly housing monitors are the only reports which record statistics in specific growth locations.

For more information visit www.planning.nsw.gov.au