



Brad Hazzard MP

Minister for Planning & Infrastructure

Minister assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW

MEDIA RELEASE

10 January 2013

‘CAN-DO’ CULTURE SEES NSW HOUSING APPROVALS BUCK NATIONAL TRENDS

In welcome news for NSW house hunters and reflecting the State Government’s ‘can-do’ culture, new housing approvals have increased significantly since the Government’s March 2011 election.

“A prime focus of the NSW Government has been to increase new housing coming onto the market and today’s ABS figures confirm dramatic improvements since the March 2011 election,” Planning and Infrastructure Minister Brad Hazzard said.

“During Labor’s last five years in office, monthly approval figures averaged just 2,578 dwellings leading to massive upward price pressures and frustration for prospective home buyers.

“Since the March 2011 election monthly approval figures have averaged 2,930 in NSW which is a 14% increase over the average approvals in the last five years of Labor.

“Figures released today show the November 2012 approvals remained strong at 3,525 (only slightly less than the October peak of 4,159 approvals – the strongest since May 2004).

“The average increase in housing approvals in NSW is particularly significant against the backdrop of an average fall in other States across Australia.

“From April 2011 to November 2012 there has been an increase of 17% in approvals against the five yearly average in NSW while nationally approvals have fallen 2%.

“The Government is continuing to ensure less red tape, streamlined approvals and a ‘can-do’ culture.

“Planning system reforms have ensured major companies who had abandoned NSW under Labor have returned to build homes for the community – and the Government will do all it can to promote sustainable housing in NSW,” Mr Hazzard said.

MEDIA: Adam Raskall 0409 565 083