MEDIA RELEASE

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WESTERN SYDNEY BOOST IN NEW HOUSING

The NSW Government’s policies to boost housing supply has seen bumper new housing figures for Sydney and a doubling of new housing completions in greenfield sites in Western Sydney.

“Western Sydney is a tradies paradise,” Planning and Infrastructure Minister Brad Hazzard said.

“The NSW Government has worked to unlock the housing potential of greenfield areas, particularly in Sydney’s North West and South West Growth Centres, by working much harder to provide the infrastructure needed to support growth.

“New houses means jobs, jobs jobs.

“We are also encouraging a wider range of housing in these areas, such as townhouses or villas, along with the traditional detached home.

“By increasing overall supply and increasing housing choice, we are making it easier for Western Sydney residents to get into the housing market.”

Mr Hazzard today released the Metropolitan Development Program (MDP) monthly monitors for July and August 2013 and the final quarterly report for 2012-13.

Mr Hazzard said the June 2013 quarterly report shows that the number of homes completed in greenfield areas in 2012-13 rose to 6,196 – double the previous year’s result of 3,078.

The quarterly report provides a more in-depth analysis of housing results, particularly for greenfield areas, compared to the monthly report.

Overall, the percentage of new housing in greenfield areas has risen from 20 per cent of Sydney’s supply in 2011-12 to 29 per cent in 2012-13.

The quarterly report finds that the highest level of greenfield dwelling completions in 2012-13 happened in Blacktown (1,699), Camden (1,222), Penrith (957), Liverpool (821) and The Hills (760).

The highest level of production in the June quarter of 2013 in infill growth locations happened in the Sydney CBD (266), the Parramatta Rd Corridor at Strathfield (237), Glebe/Camperdown (144), Burwood Town Centre (109) and Sydney City East (108).
“Under the Liberals and Nationals Government there has been a much needed return of confidence in the construction sector that NSW is open for business,” Mr Hazzard said.

“Industry tells us that the Government’s new planning system, which is currently before the Upper House, is a vital driver of that continued confidence.

“The certainty and transparency and ease that the new system delivers to the community, industry and local government will serve us well for decades to come.”

The Metropolitan Development Program (MDP) monthly monitors for July and August reveal Sydney recorded:

- 5,032 home approvals, up 35 per cent on the same period last year; and
- 2,586 home completions, up seven per cent on last year’s figures.

The highest number of home approvals in July and August were recorded in Penrith (430), Auburn (391), Blacktown (390), Rockdale (389) and Canterbury (386) local government areas.

The highest number of home completions in the two-month period occurred in Canada Bay (495), Blacktown (226), The Hills (200), Parramatta (166) and Ku-ring-gai (162) local government areas.

The MDP figures also show that the amount of released and rezoned land in Sydney is at the highest level since the early 1980s.

“We had the highest number of home completions and approvals in Sydney in nearly a decade last year – and our latest figures show we are improving on these record results in July and August,” Mr Hazzard said.

“However, figures can change from month to month and there is still more work to be done to ensure we are meeting the housing needs of Sydney’s growing population.

“Delivering housing and the infrastructure to support communities is key to the NSW Government.

“The new planning system, which returns local planning to local communities, is a win win – for the community, for mum and dad builders and for industry and the jobs driven by construction,” Mr Hazzard said.