



The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP

Premier of NSW

Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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ACCELERATED LAND RELEASE TO MAKE SYDNEY HOUSING MORE AFFORDABLE

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell and Minister for Planning and Infrastructure Brad Hazzard today announced the accelerated release of land in two Sydney Growth Centres to help make home ownership a reality for more young families.

Mr O'Farrell said the NSW Government was taking steps to overturn the serious housing shortage created under 16 years of Labor.

"The NSW Government is committed to making Sydney housing affordable again and helping more families buy a home," Mr O'Farrell said.

"One of my Government's first acts was to instruct Landcom to target the release of 10,000 housing blocks within four years.

"Today, on our 100th day, we are unlocking more land in the North West and South West Growth Centres - enough to build about 13,000 new homes.

"Home ownership in Sydney remains a dream for many young families – my Government will build the homes Labor failed to provide and ensure residents have jobs and services on their doorstep.

"Our commitment to the South West and North West Rail Links – with work also begun in our first 100 days – means potential residents of these future suburbs can buy in confidence knowing that the NSW Government will deliver the transport infrastructure denied by Labor."

Mr Hazzard said Marsden Park has the potential for around 10,000 new homes, a town centre with 30,000 square metres of retail space and 50 hectares for public recreation.

"The site adjoins the Marsden Park Industrial Precinct, which is being developed to provide up to 10,000 jobs.

"The NSW Government is also in the process of accelerating land release at Catherine Field in the South West Growth Centre.

"Catherine Field will have the capacity for around 3000 new dwellings and employment land."

Mr Hazzard said land release can be accelerated under the Precinct Acceleration Protocol (PAP). The PAP allows Growth Centre precincts to be considered for rezoning earlier than scheduled, provided there is no additional cost to taxpayers and a commitment to forward delivery of infrastructure.

“The PAP allows Government to speed up the building of new homes, by using the private sector to help fund vital infrastructure.”

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure will soon commence precinct planning in both areas to investigate land use options and infrastructure requirements. A Precinct Planning package will be placed on public exhibition for comment.

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