



The Hon Greg Pearce MLC

Minister for Finance and Services

Minister for the Illawarra

MEDIA RELEASE

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EXTENSION OF TIME FOR REDUCED INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTIONS

Minister for Finance & Services, Greg Pearce and the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure Brad Hazzard today announced the NSW Government's 50 per cent funding reduction in Special Infrastructure Contributions (SIC) will be extended until 30 June 2012.

"The SIC helps fund new State infrastructure including regional roads, land for schools, health, emergency services and conservation in identified Growth Areas and it is critical that contributions are set at a fair and reasonable level for developers," Mr Pearce said.

"The NSW Government is currently reviewing the SIC framework and while that work is done, we are extending the SIC concession to provide the certainty developers need to get on with the job of delivering new housing," he said.

"The Government is intent on driving development throughout NSW, particularly in areas including the North West and South West growth centres of Sydney.

"The extension in time of the 50 per cent NSW Government contribution will ensure costs for developers for the average sized block in the Growth Centres are reduced by around \$6,000 – through to 30th June 2012.

"This six month extension will provide developers and landowners with the certainty they've told us they need to develop and market new homes," Mr Pearce said.

Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, Brad Hazzard said the extension also provides time for the Government to continue assessing the benefits of the SICs and develop options for the future.

"The extension will allow the time necessary for extensive consultation with industry and the community," he said.

"We are determined to get right the balance between supporting the delivery of infrastructure and minimising the obstacles to getting on with development.

"The former Labor Government made a hash of getting infrastructure contributions right and delivered the lowest housing starts in 50 years.

"We are determined to get this challenging policy area right and meanwhile developers deserve to have support through the certainty of SIC to encourage them to join with the Government in getting our housing needs addressed.

"Extending the time period for the discounted SIC levy is yet again confirmation the NSW Government is intent on increasing housing supply and will ensure the right mechanisms are in place to make this happen," Mr Hazzard said.

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