



*the voice of the industry*

14 July 2012

## **Green Paper Promises to Deliver Real Reform for the NSW Housing Industry**

The release of the NSW Government Green Paper *A New Planning System for New South Wales* creates a platform for the achievement of real reform in planning that will benefit the residential building industry in NSW says the Housing Industry Association (HIA).

HIA particularly welcomes the focus on attempting to create a cultural change within state and local government in achieving planning outcomes. For too long the planning system has been used to describe why things can't be achieved. HIA has been calling on the government at all levels to demonstrate a collective will and strength to create a "can do" mentality in the provision of planning outcomes that support housing supply.

"This aspect of the Green Paper is major step in the right direction and should be applauded" said David Bare, HIA NSW Executive Director.

As an initial response, HIA is supportive of a number of key initiatives outlined in the paper. Some of these include:

- Streamlining of State and Local plans
- Maximising code complying development
- Community engagement in the early stages of the strategic planning phase
- Mandatory performance monitoring against targets
- Reforms for infrastructure delivery and a more equitable sharing of costs

"The Government's vision for a new planning system as outlined in the Green Paper, if translated into the new Act, has real potential to boost confidence in the housing construction sector and improve housing supply." said HIA NSW Executive Director, Mr David Bare.

"Ultimately we need a planning system that provides consistency, efficiency and certainty to facilitate much needed economic growth in NSW." Mr Bare said.

"At first glance the Green Paper has many positives for our industry, however the challenges will lie in the practical delivery of the initiatives. HIA looks forward to engaging with the NSW Government in the important next stage of the review process," added Mr Bare.

HIA is the leading industry association in the Australian residential building sector, supporting the businesses and interests of builders, contractors, manufacturers, suppliers, building professionals and business partners.

**For further information please contact:**

David Bare, HIA NSW Executive Director - 0418 924 127

**MEDIA RELEASE**