

# Housing Industry Forecasting Group

Forecasting Dwelling Commencements in Western Australia

## Media quotes:

Quotes may be attributed to Cath Hart, Chair – Housing Industry Forecasting Group

“WA’s remarkable post-COVID economic recovery has been well-documented, with the State recovering faster than other jurisdictions,” Ms Hart said.

“The building grants issued by both the Federal and State governments accelerated building activity in WA at a record level not seen in years, so much so that over the three months after the schemes were announced in June 2020, there was an 175 per cent increase in new home sales which came off the back of a lot of pent up demand.

“However, the challenge for industry at the moment is the impact of cost escalation on fixed-price home building contracts as a result of ongoing global supply chain related issues and a lack of access to skilled labour due to the current border restrictions in WA.

“Premier Mark McGowan’s recent announcement of WA’s Safe Transition Plan has given us some indication that interstate and internal migration will gradually return in 2022.

“We remain confident the reopening of the State to all other jurisdictions will see rates of interstate and international migration gradually return to pre-COVID levels, a move that will hopefully ease some of pressures around skilled labour currently felt across the building industry and additional sectors right across the State.

“The ongoing demand for detached home building in WA will create strong employment opportunities throughout 2022, but constraints around availability of land, labour and materials will continue to present some challenges.”

For further information please visit <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/housing-industry-forecasting-group>

*The Housing Industry Forecasting Group is a joint housing industry and government body providing independent forecasts and commentary on the Western Australian housing sector. The Group includes representatives from the UDIA, Property Council, HIA, Department of Communities, REIWA, Development WA, Landgate, the Water Corporation, CCIWA, Department of Treasury, Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, MBA, Bankwest and AHURI – Curtin University.*

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