



Tony Simpson MLA

Member for Serpentine-Jarrahdale

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WA housing affordability Is now a sad oxymoron

Home prices are now out of reach the average Western Australian.

Local MLA Tony Simpson has expressed concern that most young people will not be able to live the Australian dream and buy their own homes.

"Most Australian's hope that they will one day be able to by a place of their own," said Mr Simpson.

"It now appears that this dream may be out of reach for many people."

Recent market figures show that the median house price for Perth was over \$450, 000. Higher than Melbourne and almost as high as Sydney.

This rise in price has placed Perth property as the 11th most unaffordable in the English speaking world.

"This is a trend that is unsustainable into the future," Mr Simpson said.

"The household income needed to buy the median priced home in Perth has now risen to over \$100, 000 a year.

"Most people cannot afford this.

"This is a situation that has been exacerbated by the inability of the State Government to cope a problem of this magnitude.

"So far the Carpenter Government's attempts to solve this problem have been lazy, politically motivated and short sighted.

"The problem we face is a lack of supply, caused by high taxes and red tape.

"Not enough land has been released to meet demand over the last several years and now there is a shortage in building materials and labour to build new homes.

"Investing in new rental properties has also become an unattractive option.

"If the Government really wanted to solve the problem of high rents and a lack of affordable housing, it would tackle these real issues instead of making token gestures in a lazy effort to make it look like they are doing something to help.

"If real measures are not taken soon, the problem will only get worse.

"I am afraid that my own children may never be able to afford their own place."

For those interested in more information on WA Housing affordability, Dr Mike Nahan will be presenting the preliminary report of the Housing Affordability Taskforce in WA.

This will be held at 7pm on Wednesday the 2nd of May at the Kalamunda Library.

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