



## Media Statement

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### Be A Confident First Home Buyer

It is a very exciting time in your life. You're ready to claim your independence and buy your first home. You've even started planning how you'll decorate your new abode and you can't wait to do your own cooking in your own kitchen.

But even for the most independent and confident, buying a home, especially your first home, can be very scary.

"What if I pay too much? What if I make the wrong decision? What if I end up with a home that has heaps of problems?" are just some of the things that first home buyers worry about.

Don't let the fear of making the wrong decision stand in your way of the Federal Government's First Home Owners Boost.

The clock is now ticking, as the Government Boost is due to be halved at the end of September and will expire at the end of December 2009 (when it reverts back to the \$7000 grant).

It is now more important than ever for first home buyers to make informed and confident decisions.

Landgate's Chief Executive Mike Bradford says that there are some very easy steps that first home buyers can take to boost their confidence when buying a home.

"We have a range of reports available to help first home buyers make accurate and educated property decisions, and they are more than reasonably priced," Mr Bradford said.

"Our reports are particularly popular with the parents of first home buyers, who are helping their children to make informed decisions."

Landgate's Property Report provides accurate sales history of a single property. It is available online at [www.landgate.wa.gov.au](http://www.landgate.wa.gov.au) for \$5.50 and is delivered by email to the customer in a matter of minutes.

"The sales history is very important when deciding to buy a home," Mr Bradford said.

"It can help you determine that you are paying a good price and that the house has a history of steady and stable growth over time.

"Alternatively, if a home has changed hands an unusual number of times, you are going to want to ask why.

"The advantage of using a Landgate report is that we are the WA Government Agency responsible for maintaining the official register of land ownership and survey information.

"This means that our information is authoritative and unbiased, we simply present the facts."

Other reports available from Landgate online include the sales history of strata complexes, of entire streets, suburbs and even Local Government Authorities.

Mr Bradford expects that there will be a flurry of activity on the property market over the next few months, because of the proposed reduction in the Government Boost.

"The best way to avoid getting caught up in making an ill-informed or emotional real estate purchase is to do your research properly beforehand, which will make you a confident buyer," Mr Bradford said.

Don't buy a property with your eyes closed; get the full picture by going straight to the source. Landgate is the Western Australia Land Information Authority and is the source of all property information in Western Australia.

[www.landgate.wa.gov.au](http://www.landgate.wa.gov.au)

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