

Media Release



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Prime Minister's New 'Cities Deal' Model will Result in Better Planning for Infrastructure in Perth

The Prime Minister's proposal to adapt a British policy that has seen economic growth and productivity lifted in major cities there could be the boost Perth needs says the peak body for the development industry in the State.

The UDIA WA has welcomed the Prime Minister's confirmation that his government is incorporating the model into its Cities Agenda. "We need new approaches to building urban and regional growth. A model that ensures more development and coordination of infrastructure would be strongly supported by the development industry" said Rhys Kelly, President UDIA WA.

The core goal of the UK Cities Deals is to ensure that funding is directed to infrastructure that increases economic growth, productivity and employment. This requires all levels of government to enter into agreements about which infrastructure projects will achieve these objectives and how they will be funded. "This level of agreement provides more certainty for the development industry and results in more private sector investment, a win win for everyone" said Rhys Kelly, President UDIA WA.

"As the model requires a move away from the traditional individual budget approach and encourages prioritisation and regional cooperation from government, developers get a better understanding of the long term rolling investment that will be made by government. Many of the funding challenges and uncertainties that were being experienced in the UK are now affecting WA and when the economy is tight this type of model ensures that the government's limited resources are spent on projects that will maximise productivity and growth".

Rhys commented "The UDIA WA supports the Prime Minister's adaptation of the City Deals model as improved planning and investment into city infrastructure projects will lead to better road and transport infrastructure and more jobs and housing, meaning a better way of life for West Australians".

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For further comment:	
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