

For immediate release
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Mount Barker emerging as housing hotspot for first-time buyers

First home buyers are heading to the Hills, particularly Mount Barker, as the town emerges as a “centre of choice” driven by an abundance of house and land packages.

Figures from South Australian lender HomeStart Finance, which represents one in eight South Australian first home buyers, showed Mount Barker was the number one town in the Adelaide Hills its home lending activity in the 2015-2016 financial year.

Rounding out the top five towns for first home buyers in the Hills were Nairne, Bridgewater, Littlehampton and Balhannah.

HomeStart Chief Executive Officer, John Oliver, said the abundance of affordable land and housing packages available in Mount Barker were providing ideal buying conditions.

“There are seven major developments around Mount Barker including Springlake, Aston Hills and Newenham, all of which have more than 200 lots each,” he said.

“As well as the affordability of home and land packages in the new developments, these packages also offer stamp duty concessions cutting thousands off upfront costs”

“Combined with the \$15,000 First Home Owner Grant available for new homes and HomeStart’s lower upfront costs, the house and land packages available in Mount Barker are a great option for to make home ownership more achievable, sooner.”

The median house price in Mount Barker is also \$417,000, compared to metropolitan Adelaide’s higher median house price of \$450,000 recorded in June 2016.

Mr Oliver said the attractive lifestyle in Mount Barker and the close proximity to the city are other contributing reasons why home buyers are heading to the Hills.

“Mount Barker boasts clean country air and a community-orientated feel, coupled with abundant shops, schools and services, to provide a family-friendly lifestyle within 35 kilometres of Adelaide’s CBD,” he said.

“The new Bald Hill interchange also promises more efficient access on and off the freeway, reducing traffic congestion through Mount Barker and improving travel times and road safety for commuters.”

HomeStart makes home ownership a reality for more South Australians in more ways. We are a statutory authority that reports to the Minister for Housing and Urban Development. We were created in 1989 and since then have helped over 64,500 households into home ownership.