



**ULDA Media Release**  
EMBARGOED UNTIL  
5 November 2009

### **Fitzgibbon Chase Awarded**

The Fitzgibbon Chase development in Brisbane's north has received top marks for its commitment to environmental sustainability.

The Urban Land Development Authority's (ULDA) Fitzgibbon Chase is the first project in Australia to receive full marks under EnviroDevelopment version 2.0, which recognises exemplary sustainable development projects.

EnviroDevelopment is an initiative of the Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) and is a scientifically based program which recognises outstanding achievement across six key areas of sustainability - ecosystems, waste, energy, materials, water and community.

Minister for Infrastructure and Planning, Stirling Hinchliffe said to be accredited in all six key areas is a significant achievement.

"The EnviroDevelopment certification demonstrates that Fitzgibbon Chase has met rigorous sustainability standards set by scientists, academics and industry professionals," Mr Hinchliffe said.

Once completed, the entire Fitzgibbon Chase development will contain up to 1,700 homes in a range of styles to suit all household types, as well as parks and 40-hectares of bushland.

"Of the homes being constructed in Fitzgibbon, 66 per cent will be sold at or below the median house price for Brisbane, which makes the EnviroDevelopment certification all the more significant because it demonstrates that affordable housing can also be sustainable housing," Mr Hinchliffe said.

Fitzgibbon Chase is part of the wider Fitzgibbon Urban Development Area (UDA).

The announcement of the Fitzgibbon Chase success coincides with the release of version 2.0 EnviroDevelopment technical standards by the Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA), which significantly increases the standards required to achieve EnviroDevelopment certification.

UDIA (Qld) CEO Brian Stewart said the new standards were developed in response to changes to Queensland legislation, community expectations and the certification of nine projects throughout the state.

"The new standards ensure EnviroDevelopment will continue to inspire and reward high performing sustainable developments," he said.

ULDA CEO Paul Eagles said the certification means that people who are looking to buy in Fitzgibbon Chase can be assured that the home they are purchasing meets a significant range of environment standards.

“The program recognises that at Fitzgibbon Chase, we’re using open green space, energy efficient house design, advanced waste minimisation and recycling strategies, and extensive ecological management to provide future residents with a genuine environmentally friendly environment,” Mr Eagles said.

“Fitzgibbon Chase is the first development ever to be certified under this version of the EnviroDevelopment program which requires that even more stringent standards be met.

“It is a testament to the work the ULDA has been undertaking with our builder partners that we have been able to achieve this while at the same time ensuring that we meet our housing affordability requirements,” Mr Eagles said.

The ULDA is developing Fitzgibbon Chase on 114 hectares, 12 kilometres from Brisbane’s CBD.

The award-winning ULDA was established by the Queensland Government in November 2007 to help make housing more affordable and to deliver housing options for the changing needs of the community. Its role is to plan, instigate and co-ordinate the development of land in selected urban areas.

EnviroDevelopment was initiated by the UDIA in Queensland in response to interest from Queensland developers. It has since been implemented in South Australia and Western Australia, with strong interest from the Australian Capital Territory and has received overwhelming support and recognition from government, industry and independent environmental experts.

EnviroDevelopment will be launched in Victoria towards the end of the year and was showcased at the Asia Pacific Cities Summit, held in Incheon, Korea, in September 2009.

Ends

**Media Contact: Mark Smith ULDA 07 3024 4157**