



Press Release Tuesday 29th July 2008

Home building industry reacts to Crosby Review

Responding to today's (29th July) publication of Sir James Crosby's "Mortgage Finance: Interim Analysis" report, Homes for Scotland has expressed its frustration at the lack of recommendations for urgent action in addressing the mortgage funding gap.

Chief Executive Jonathan Fair said:

"New build starts in Scotland were down by almost 50% in the last quarter*. This has already resulted in up to 15,000 redundancies, with the impact being felt the length and breadth of the country. In addition to the wider economic implications, the irreversible loss of skills and capacity that we are beginning to see will have long-term consequences and the largest source of private investment in schools, roads, infrastructure and other community facilities will be lost.

Whilst the Scottish Government must play its part in delivering an appropriate support package, the Treasury needs to act now to inject activity back into the market – we simply can't wait another few months."

Ends

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Note to Editors:

1. Homes for Scotland (www.homesforscotland.com) represents the country's home building industry which:

- is the largest source of private investment in Scotland
- contributes £6bn to the economy annually
- builds 20,000 new homes per annum
- directly impacts the employment of 100,000 people
- is the largest user of the planning system in Scotland

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