

# JOHN LINDEMAN'S CASH COW SUBURBS WITH POTENTIAL



**SUBURBS AND TOWNS IN AUSTRALIA AND  
NEW ZEALAND WITH POSITIVE CASH FLOW  
AND PREDICTED IMMINENT PRICE GROWTH  
SAMPLE ONLY**

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# **John Lindeman's Cash Cow Suburbs with Potential in Australia and New Zealand**

## **SAMPLE ONLY**

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## 1) About the author and this report

### John Lindeman



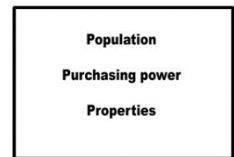
CEO of innovative property market research firm **Property Power Partners**, John is widely respected as one of Australia's leading property market analysts. With over twenty years of experience researching the nature and dynamics of the housing market at major data analysts, John is renowned as the property market researcher that other property experts go to for all their housing market insights.

John is a contributor to property media such as **Australian Property Investor Magazine**, **Your Investment Property Magazine**, **Michael Yardney's Property Update**, **Kevin Turner's Real Estate Talk** and **Alan Kohler's Eureka Report**. John has also authored the landmark best-selling books for property investors, **Mastering the Australian Housing Market** and **Unlocking the Property Market**, both published by **Wileys**.

### About this report

This report reveals Australian and New Zealand suburbs and towns with strong cash flow, imminent price growth potential and current rental yields of 6% or more. This is how we locate them:

First, we conduct a full analysis of potential changes in population growth and movement and the need for, cost of and availability of rental stock in all of the 16,000 plus suburbs and towns in Australia and New Zealand. This indicates which suburbs have the greatest potential for increased housing demand from renters.



Then we utilise our patented Housing Market Prediction Solution to forecast the likely intensity of price and rent changes where buyer and renter demand is likely to rise. This reveals those suburbs with strong cash flow where rental yields and price growth are likely to outperform the rest.



Lastly, we conduct "on the ground" research of all the suburbs which have strong growth potential. This is to confirm our findings and to ensure that there are sufficient properties publicly listed for sale to enable you as a potential buyer to find a suitable property and negotiate a fair price.



The suburbs in this report have the potential to provide you with investment opportunities delivering positive cash flow as well as capital growth potential for the future. Our comprehensive market analysis and prediction system has delivered outstanding success for thousands of our report users in the past. We trust that you will also profit from our research.

John Lindeman  
CEO Property Power Partners

## 2) Australasia's only patented housing market prediction solution



This report brings you highly accurate property market forecasts produced by the Housing Market Prediction Solution, invented by leading property market analyst John Lindeman, and awarded an Innovation Patent in 2016.

The sophisticated technology employed by the HOMPS database identifies the investment prospects for over 16,000 suburbs and towns, revealing their cash flow potential and predicted price performance up to five years ahead.

Since they were developed, the predictive algorithms employed in the database have produced a consistent past predictive accuracy rate of over ninety per cent in terms of forecasting both the direction and intensity of price and rent changes.

## 3) John Lindeman's legendary record of predictive accuracy



In *Property Observer* Issue of **27 May 2016**, John correctly predicted that **Hobart** was the next property hotspot and would boom in 2017, which was **just before** the growth kicked in.

**Hobart was the best performer** of all capital city housing markets **for the next five years**.



In **March 2020**, John **correctly predicted** in *Your Investment Property* that our property markets would **boom** as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This was while the economists and other analysts were all forecasting **doom and gloom**.



In **August 2020**, John predicted in *Your Investment Property* that prices in **Adelaide's** lower priced suburbs were **about to boom**.

House prices in the locations pinpointed by John **trebled over the next four years**.



In the **August 2022 Lindeman Reports newsletter** John forecast that **Perth's** bargain priced suburbs **were about to soar** in price, after nearly a decade of little to no growth.

Median house prices in those suburbs **more than doubled** over the **next three years**.

All of the above predictions were authored by John Lindeman and published in the sources quoted, with the subsequent results independently verified by Cotality (CoreLogic) published data.

## How we determine the current market for buyers

Potential property buyers and intending sellers need to be aware of whether the current market conditions for their type of property in the suburb where they intend to make a purchase or sale are in their favour, or whether the odds are stacked against them.

For example, potential buyers in areas which meet all their desired outcomes from property investment still need to know whether current market conditions favour an immediate purchase, whether it might be better to wait for a few months until buyer conditions improve, or whether it is simply better not to buy in the suburb at all due to the current unfavourable state of the market and choose another location.

Market conditions tend to suit buyers in suburbs where seller sentiment is negative, usually due to recent price falls, buyer demand is low, potential sellers are competing to attract a buyer and there are many properties listed for sale.

Market conditions suit sellers when there are few properties for sale and potential buyers are competing against each other, with rising prices resulting in positive seller sentiment.

Some areas have stressed housing markets where there are very few buyers and many potential sellers.

Even though buying conditions appear to be good in such markets and they may have favourable long-term predictions, potential buyers should look elsewhere, because prices could keep falling for years to come before the market improves.



The issue is complex because potential buyers and sellers often rely on biased or anecdotal information which is provided by those who may derive some form of commission, knock-on, finder's fee, kick-back or other reward for their efforts. The purchase or sale could be in their best interests, rather than yours.

While it is possible for you to form an independent and accurate opinion about the current type of housing market prevailing in an area, this is often beyond the desire or inclination of most of us to do.

For this reason, our reports describe the current market conditions for houses or units in any suburb and reveal whether they suit potential buyers.

To achieve this for you, we have conducted "on the ground" research of all the suburbs revealed by our research methodologies to confirm the findings and ensure that the suburbs in this report have current market conditions which are neutral or suit buyers or that there are good opportunities to obtain a bargain priced property.

## How we determine the cash flow potential

Suburbs which offer strong cash flow are those where the rental demand is greater than the supply of properties available for rent. To obtain strong cash flow your first priority must be to buy properties where the rental demand is strong, which is a different dynamic to the buyer demand. Rent demand can also be seasonal, regular, permanent, semi-permanent or temporary, depending on the main types of renting households in any area.

Rent demand is **seasonal** in holiday destinations such as coastal holiday destinations, but could peak during winter in tropical locations or alpine resort towns.

Rent demand from workers is **regular** in tourist areas and is also **regular** from students in tertiary education precincts. While the workers or students in these areas may move fairly frequently, rental demand is constantly created by their need to live in the area for employment or education. When rent demand falls in education precincts during the semester breaks, it may rise in tourist areas.

Rental demand is **permanent** in the low socio-economic suburbs of our major cities and rural towns, and many of the households in these locations may rent all their lives.

**Semi-permanent** rent demand is common in older well-established suburbs where overseas arrivals tend to rent for several years before they can buy a home of their own. While this rent demand appears to be permanent, it is ultimately dependent on where migrants come from, as this determines where they are likely to rent, preferring areas where people of similar ethnic backgrounds already live.

Finally, there are locations where rent demand grows quickly, but is **temporary**, such as when mines are constructed or further developed and during transport infrastructure projects including the building or expansion of railway lines, ports or highways. These rental booms are most common in remote and regional areas where the workers must rent in nearby towns until the project is complete.

If the rental yields rise enough, investors start competing to buy properties and an investor led price boom may result, which collapses when the number of investor owned properties is greater than the demand for them, or when the project is completed and the workers depart.

Our analysis of the cash flow potential of any suburb starts with an assessment of whether there is a shortage or surplus of available rental stock of the type being sought by renters in the area. This indicates whether asking rents are rising or falling in the suburb. We then estimate the rental demand and rental stock supply trend to predict the likely direction of rents over the forecast period.

Lastly, we determine the main types of renters in each suburb to estimate whether the rental demand is more likely to be seasonal, regular, permanent, semi-permanent or temporary. It is this wholistic combination of rent demand and supply indicators, trends and dynamics that enables us to generate the cash flow potential for houses or units in any suburb.

## **How we estimate the market growth outlook and long-term growth forecasts**

In order to generate the market outlooks and predictions provided in this report, we utilise the Housing Market Prediction Solution (HOMPS) which was invented by leading property market analyst and researcher, John Lindeman. HOMPS was awarded an Innovation Patent in 2016 and is owned by Property Power Partners.

HOMPS employs predictive data driven algorithms which reveal the imminent, medium and long-term growth dynamics of all types of housing at suburb level over typical buy and hold periods of up to five years.

At a macro “top down” level, HOMPS measures changes in the nature and volume of housing demand experienced during economic, financial and demographically defined events such as economic booms, busts, recessions, depressions and periods of high and low inflation, high and low population growth and during periods of easy and cheap housing finance compared to times when interest rates are high and when finance is difficult to obtain.

On a micro “bottom up” level, HOMPS measures changes in housing demand caused over long periods of time by owner/occupiers, renters and investors in different locations and types of markets such as high density inner urban areas, medium density inner suburbs, well-established low-density suburbs, emerging outer suburban areas, regional cities, tourism precincts, retiree destinations, mining and construction zones and remote rural locations.

In addition to such man-made changes in the dynamics, HOMPS also evaluates the likely impact of current, emerging and recently concluded environmental events such as droughts, bushfires, floods and cyclones (plus earthquakes in New Zealand), each of which has a different long-term effect on housing markets and on the time taken for them to bounce back from such disasters.

To test and ensure the accuracy of the methodologies, we studied how housing markets in all types of locations for every different type of property have reacted over various time intervals to changes in the demand dynamics at both macro and micro levels from 1901 to the present. We then applied various iterations to determine which predictive algorithms produced the most accurate results.

From this analysis we utilised the predictive algorithms in HOMPS to locate suburbs where house or unit prices are likely to underperform when compared to others in a city or region, which suburbs are likely to be average performers, and to reveal which suburbs have the greatest potential to outperform others in a city or region over long-term buy and hold periods.

This form of research is of necessity reliant on a reasonably accurate estimate of the long term demand dynamics of housing markets such as predicted trends in the cost, availability and need for housing finance, the nature and extent of population growth such as overseas migration and natural increase plus the expected effect of interstate and intrastate migration numbers between various locations.

We do not provide estimates of the predictive reliability of longer term forecasts, but it can be assumed that the further into the future a prediction is made, the less reliable it can be expected to be.

## 4) Summary of selected suburbs and towns

We utilised our Housing Market Prediction Solution (HOMPS) which contains historical, current and predictive property data for the 16,000 plus residential suburbs and towns in Australia and New Zealand to narrow down the search for those suburbs meeting all the following selection criteria:

- ✓ Strong cash flow potential
- ✓ Imminent price growth outlook
- ✓ Sufficient number of advertised listings

We then selected those suburbs and towns meeting all of the above criteria with current rental yields of 6% or more for inclusion in this report.

The following table provides a summary of the suburbs included in this report by their State of location (or New Zealand), type of property (ie houses/townhouses or units/apartments) and sale price ranges.

A zero (0) indicates that no suburbs or towns met all the above criteria in that State for either houses or units.

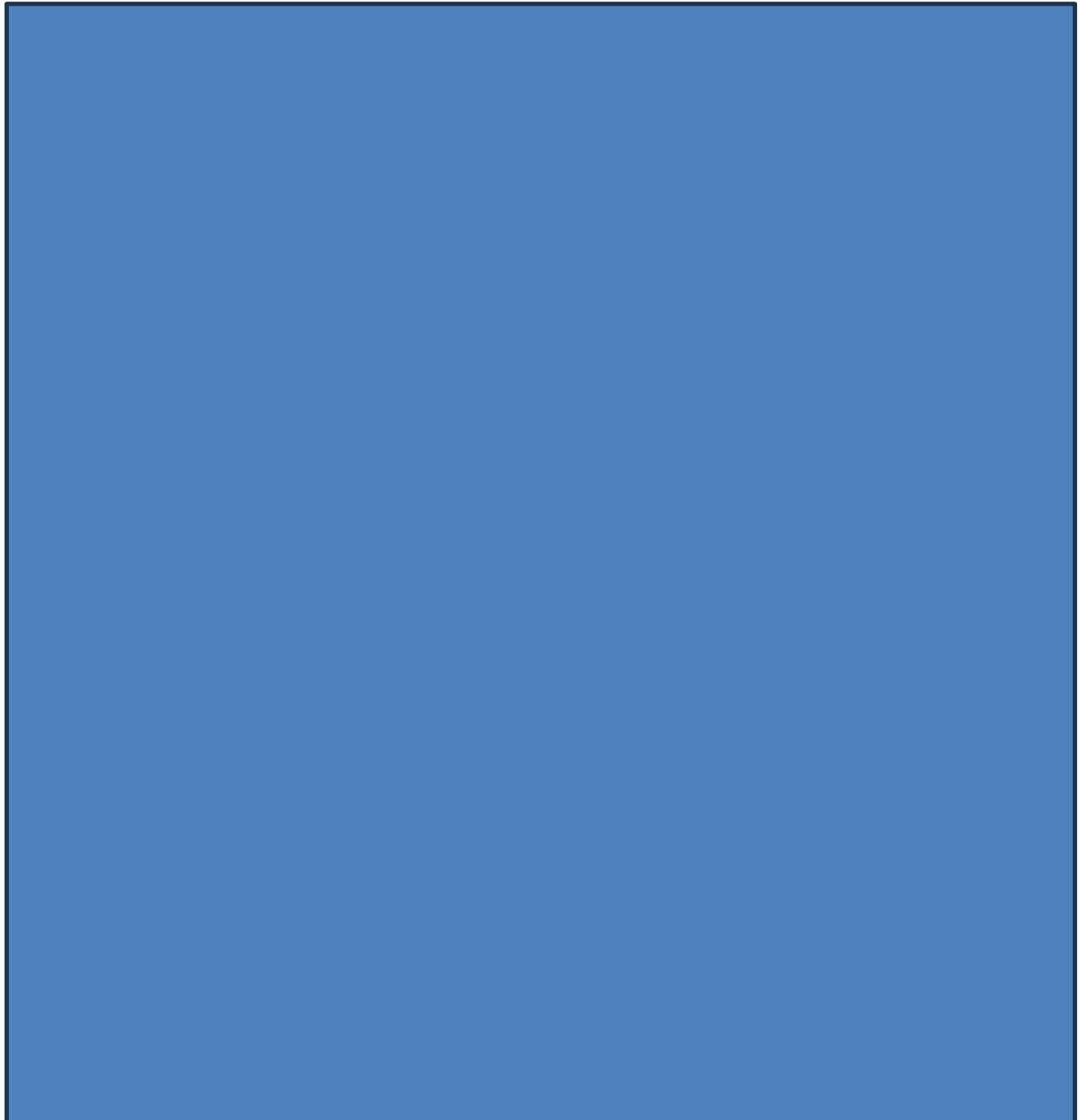
No suburbs qualified in the Australian Capital Territory.

<b>JOHN LINDEMAN'S CASH COW SUBURBS WITH POTENTIAL MAY 2026 ISSUE</b>							
State, Territory or Country	Capital city location	Regional or rural locations	Units and apartments	Houses and townhouses	Median sale prices under \$500,000	Median sale prices between \$500,000 and \$700,000	Median sale prices between \$700,001 and \$800,000
New South Wales	2	6	3	5	6	2	0
Victoria	2	6	2	6	6	2	0
Queensland	0	12	2	10	11	0	1
South Australia	0	2	0	2	2	0	0
Western Australia	3	6	4	5	5	4	0
Tasmania	0	3	0	3	3	0	0
Northern Territory	2	5	1	6	4	2	1
New Zealand	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
There were no suburbs in the ACT that met all of our selection criteria for suitable buying conditions or price growth potential. New Zealand sale prices are quoted in New Zealand dollars.							

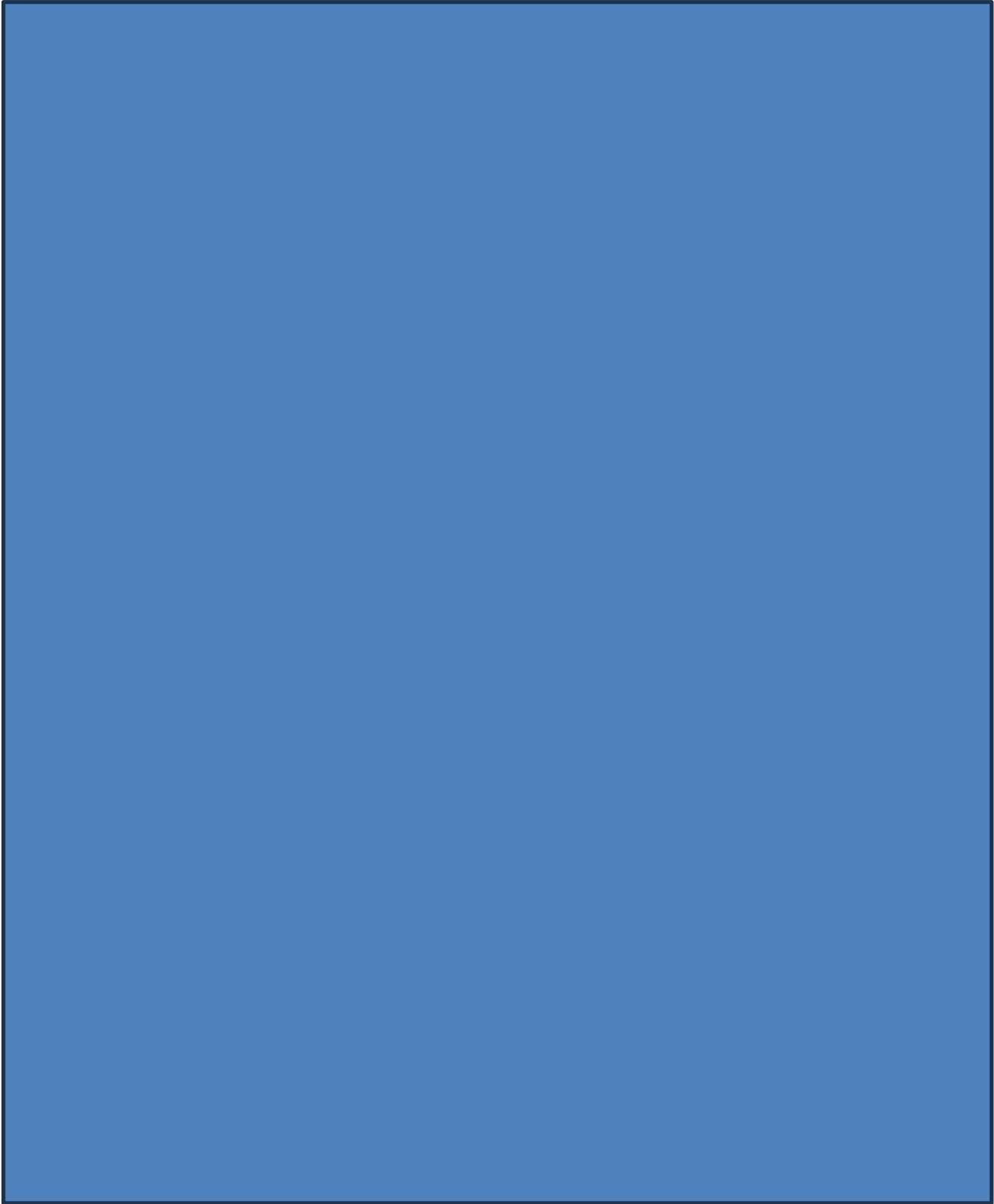
## 5) Our cash cow suburbs with potential in Australia

These tables reveal the suburbs and towns which meet our selection criteria and are provided for houses and units in each State. The suburbs are ranked in alphabetical order.

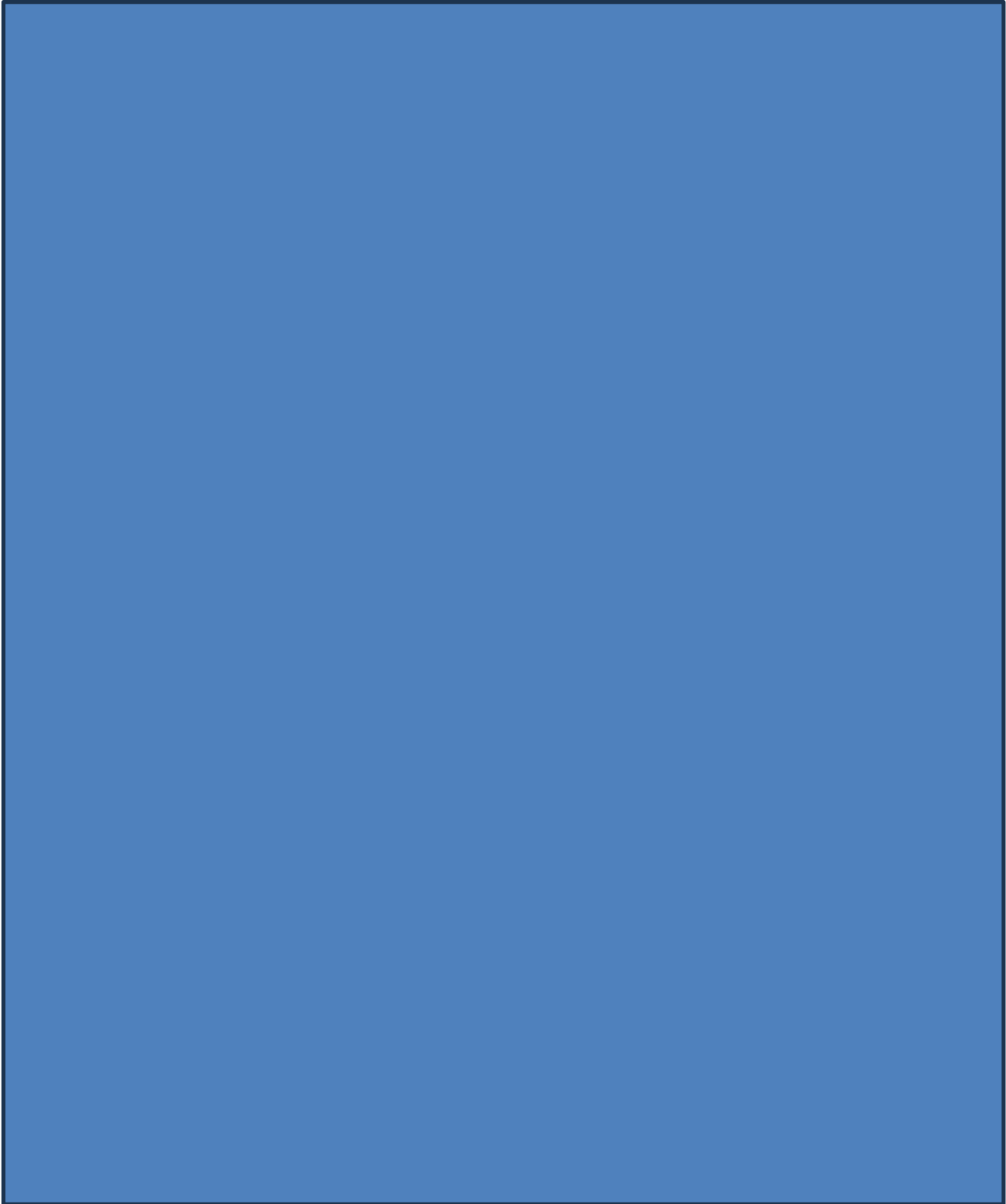
### NEW SOUTH WALES UNITS

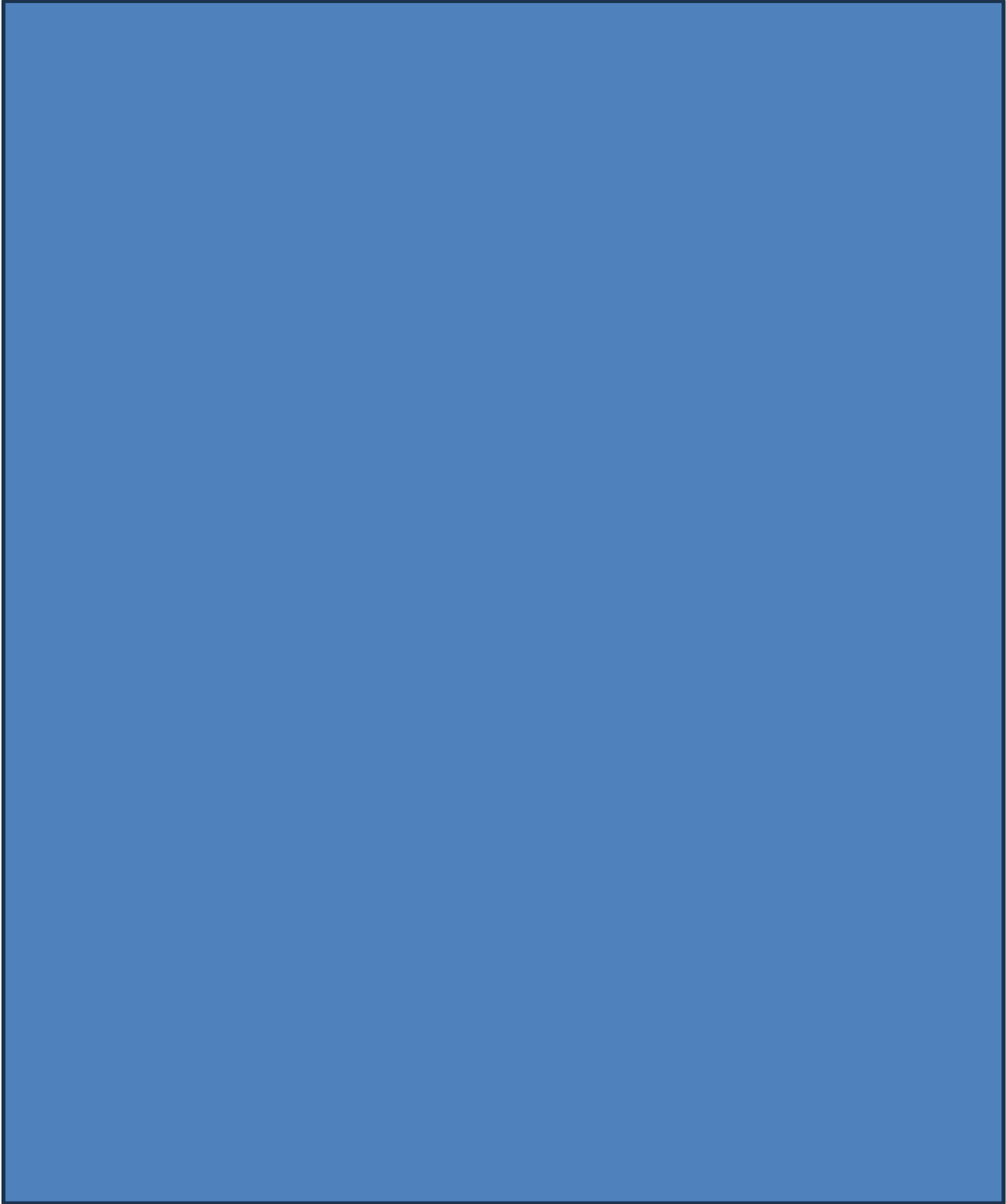


**NEW SOUTH WALES HOUSES**

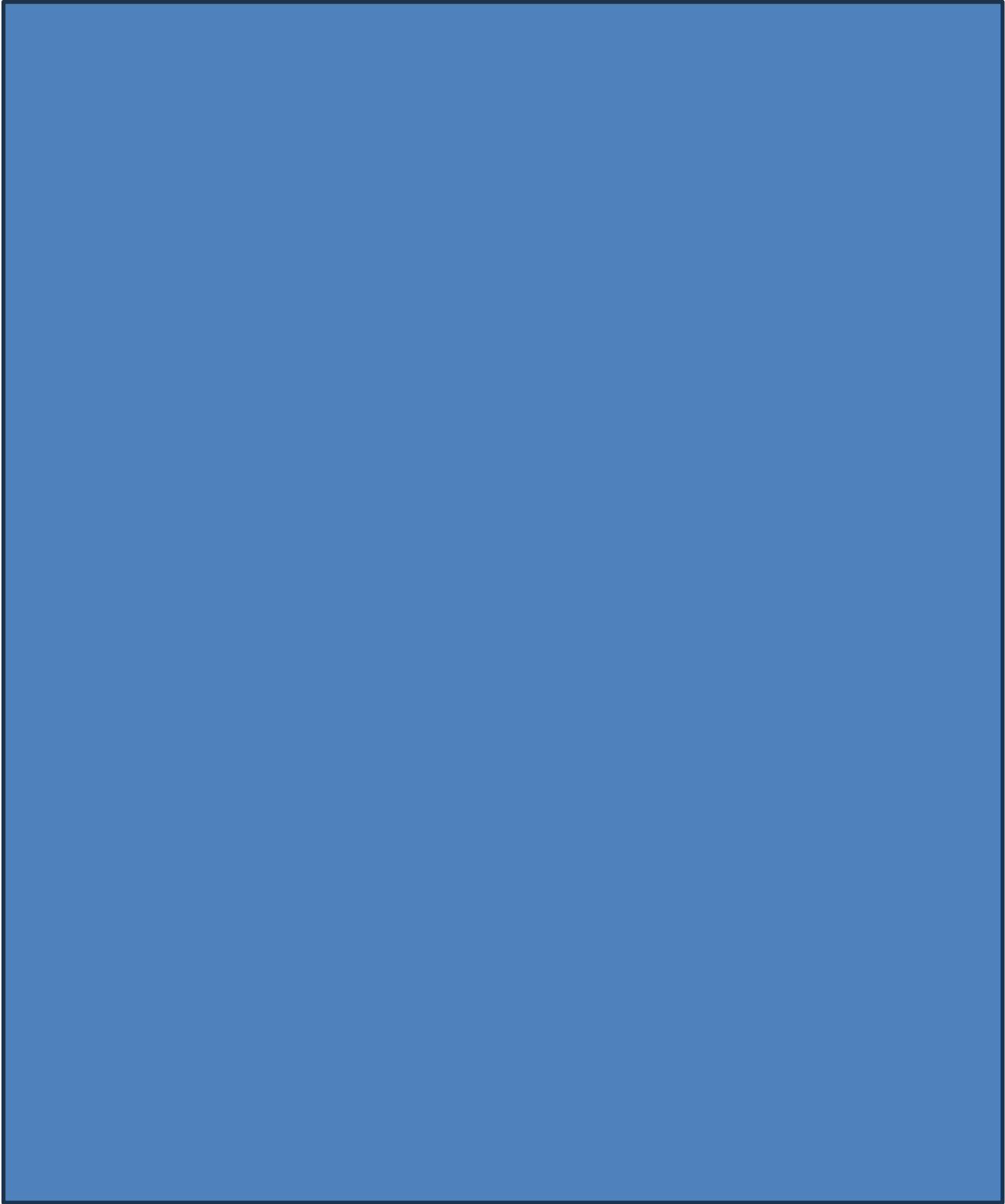


**VICTORIA UNITS**

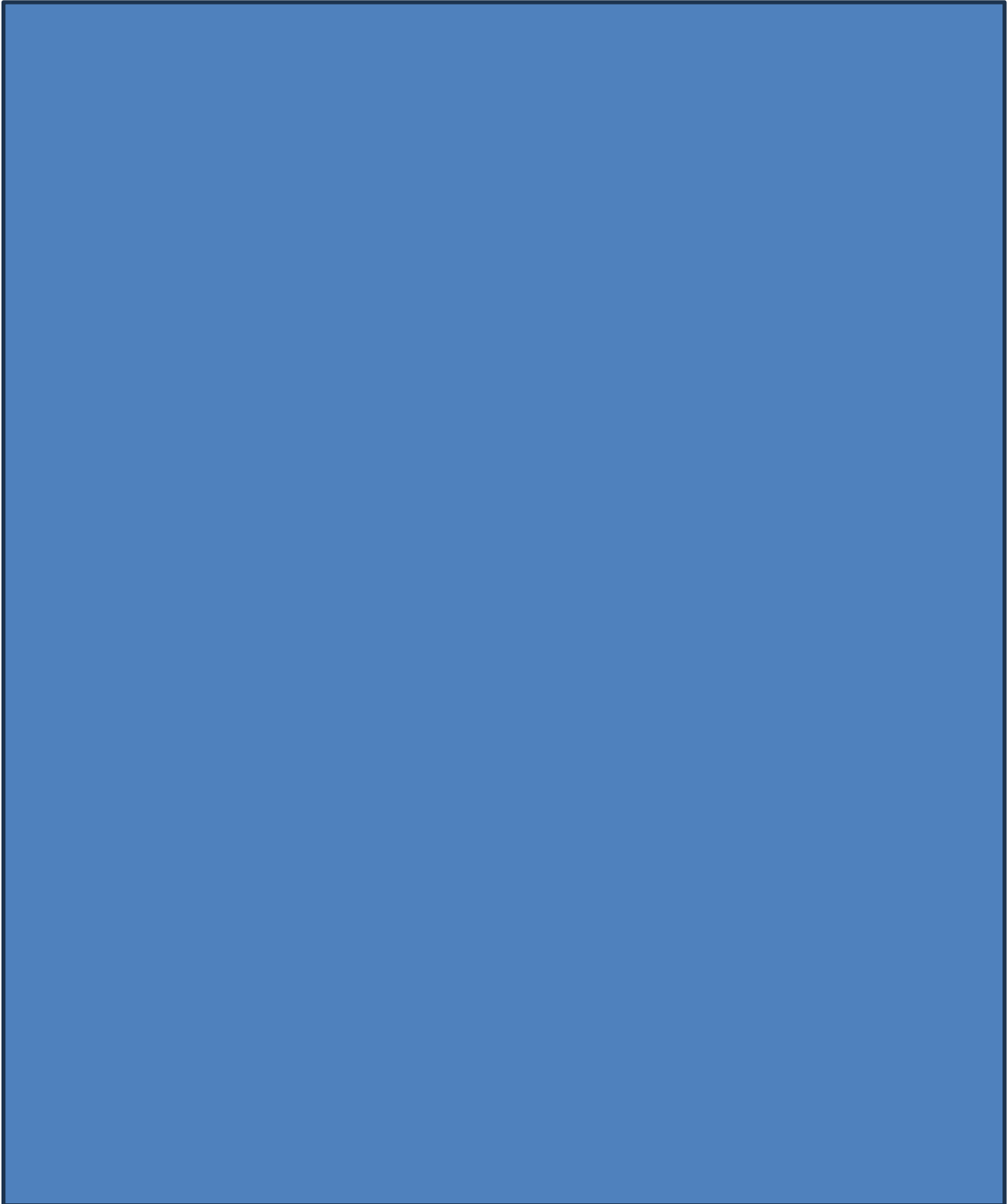




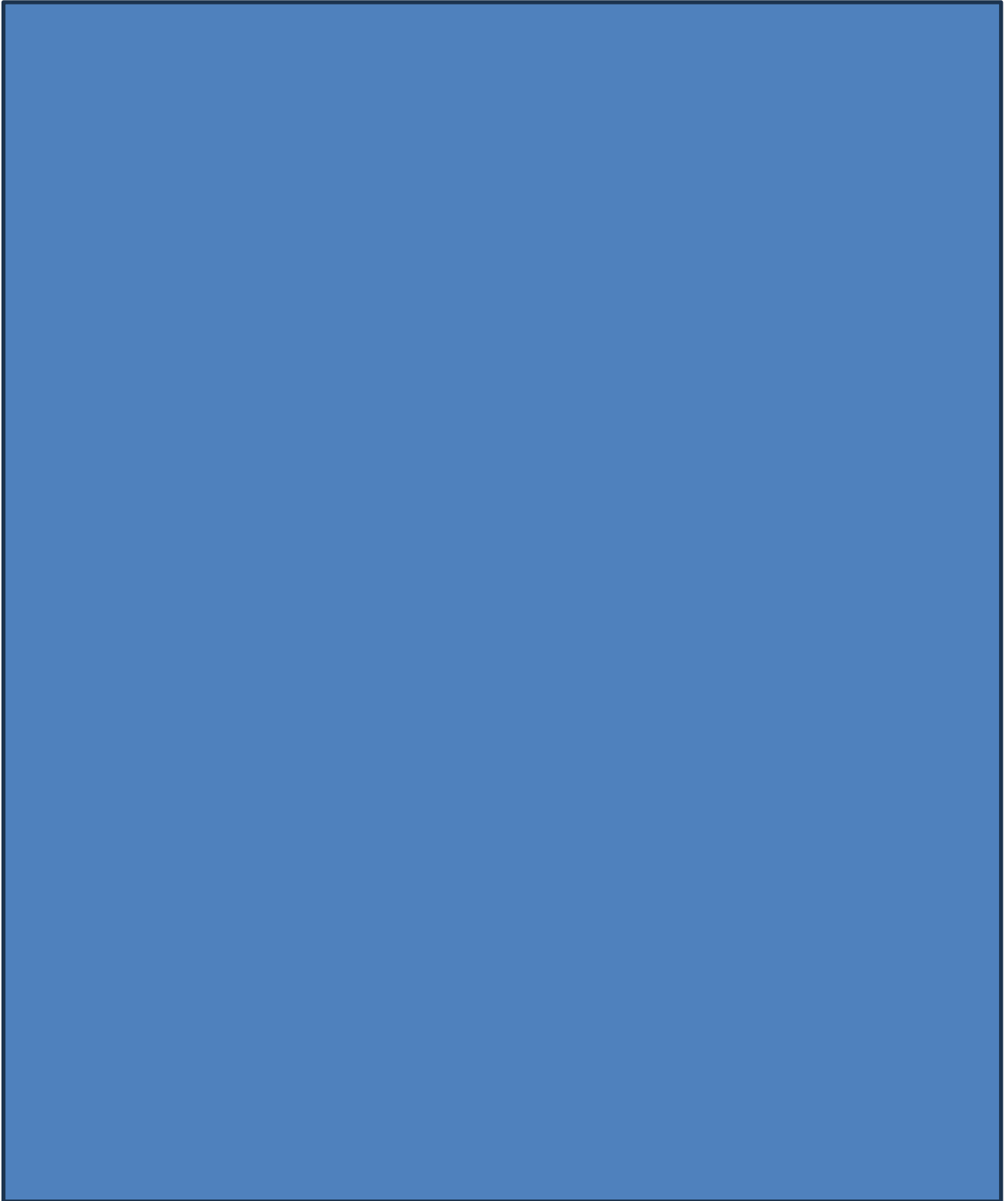
**QUEENSLAND UNITS**



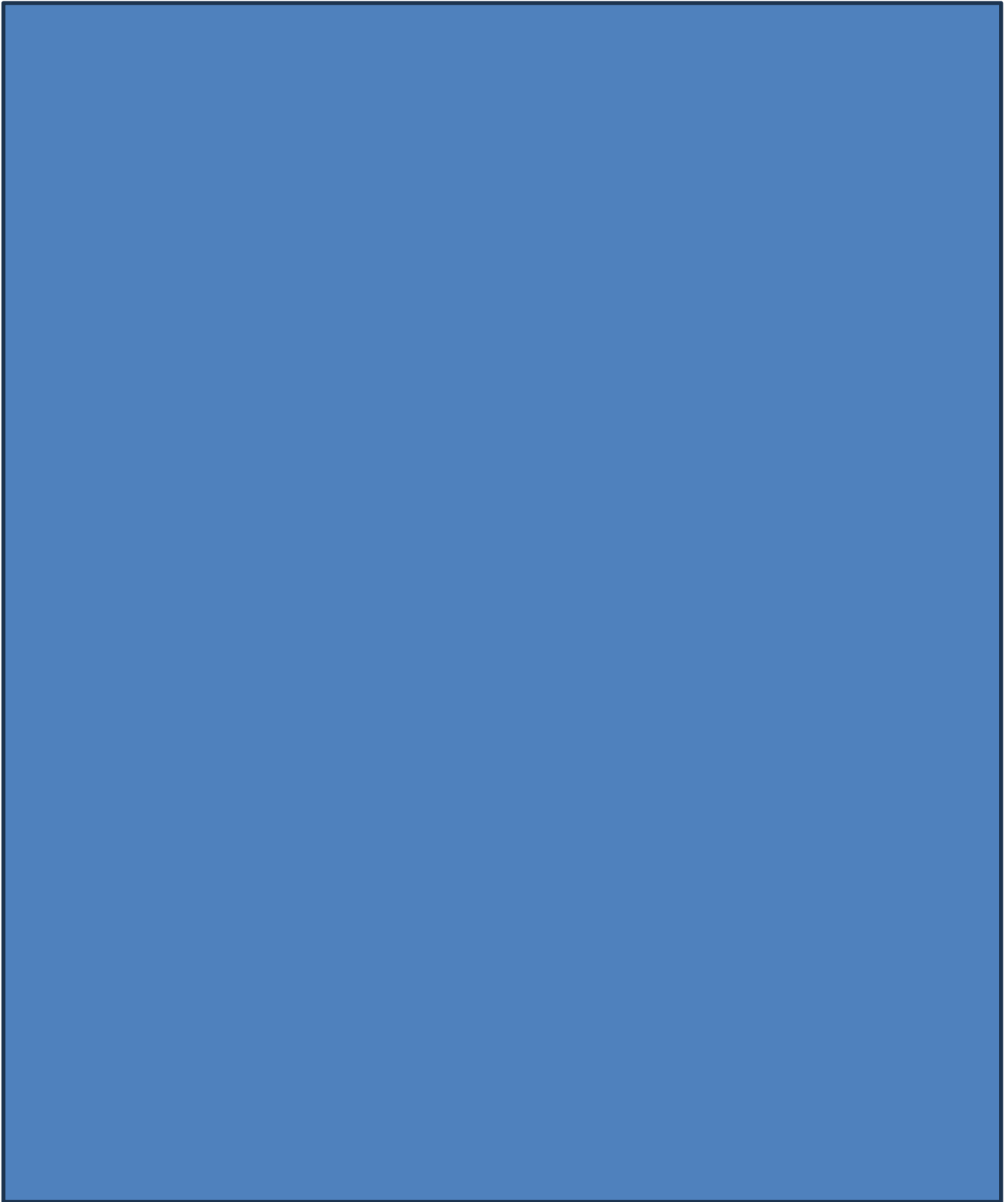
**QUEENSLAND HOUSES**



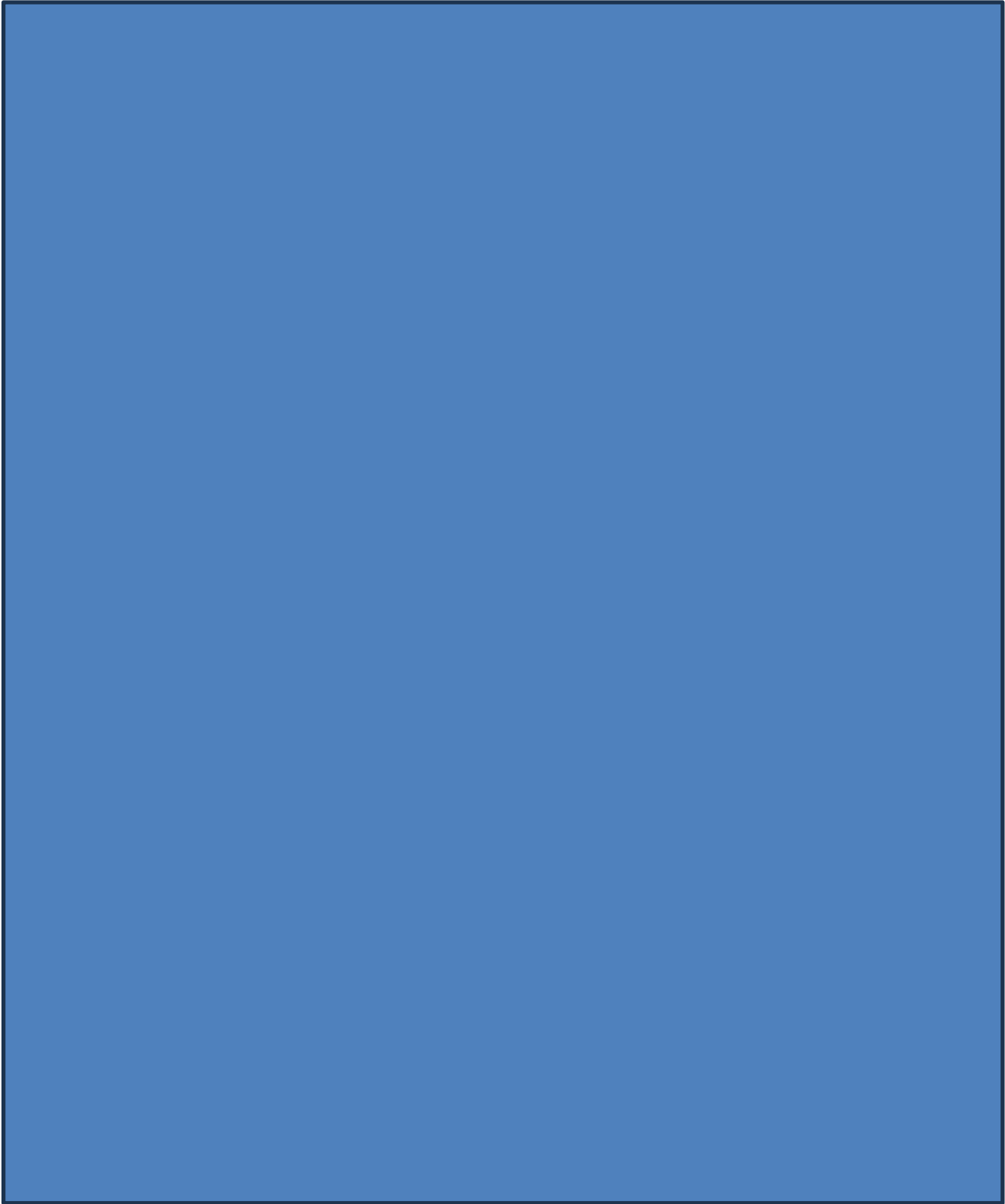
**SOUTH AUSTRALIA HOUSES**



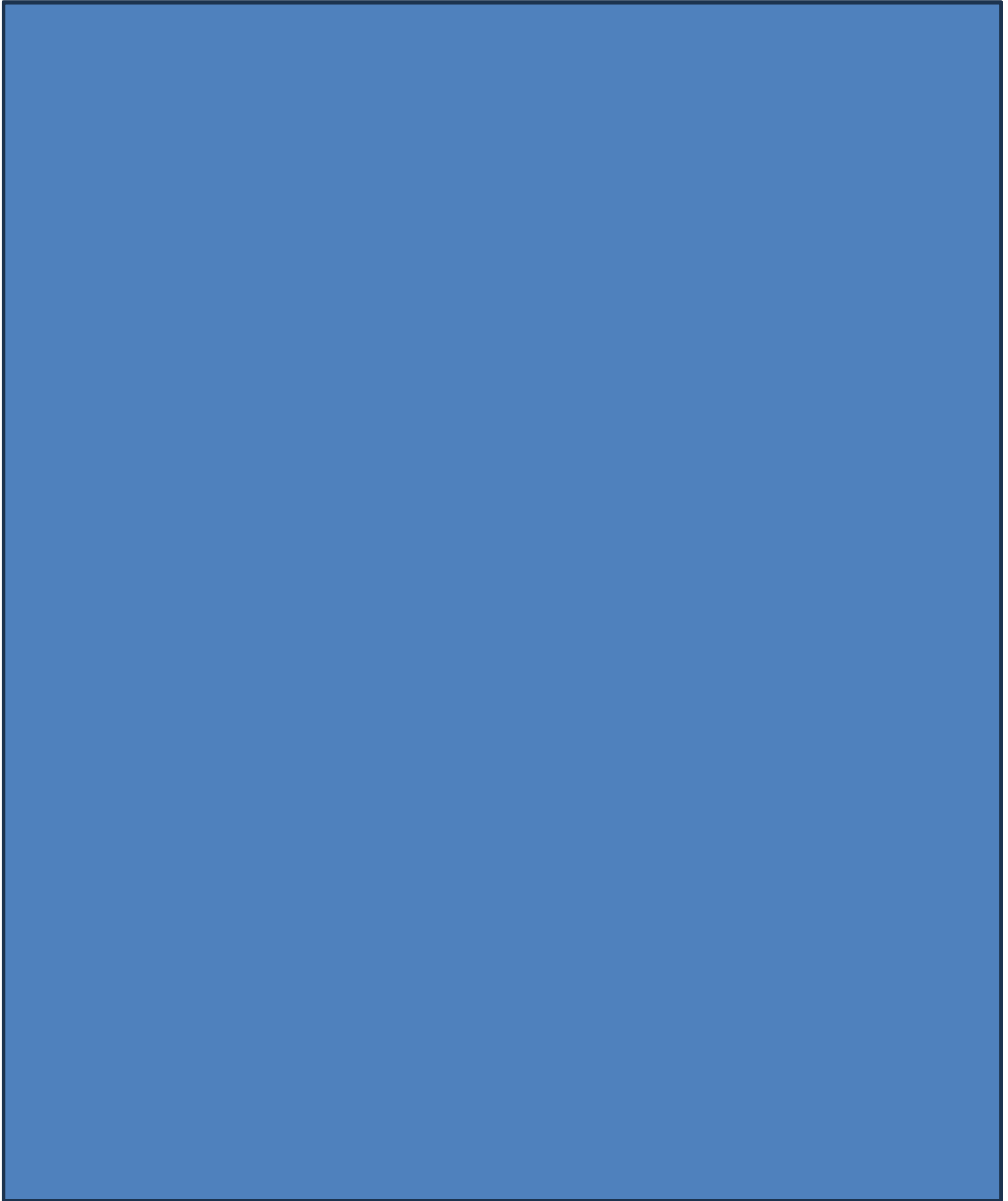
**WESTERN AUSTRALIA UNITS**



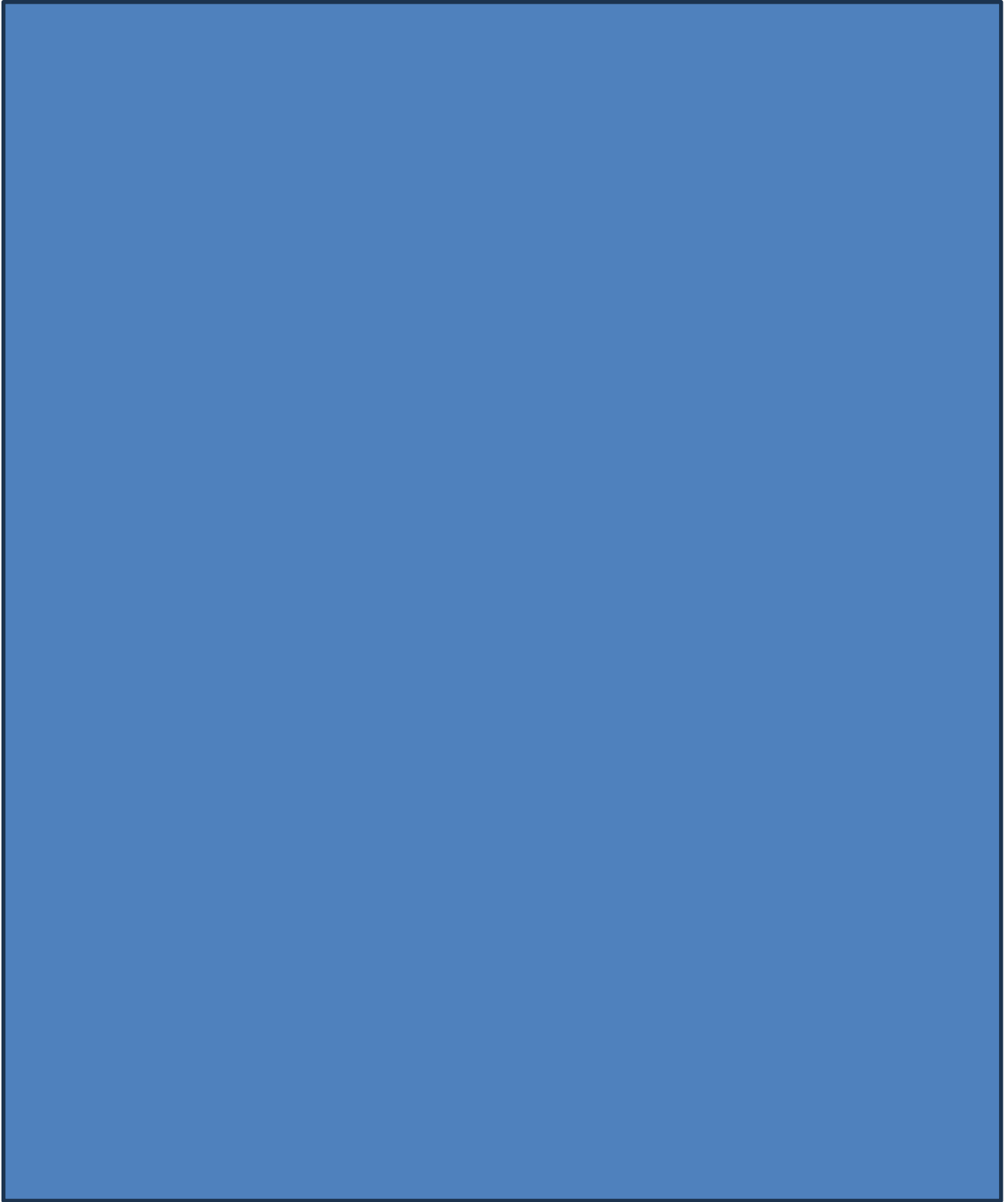
**WESTERN AUSTRALIA HOUSES**



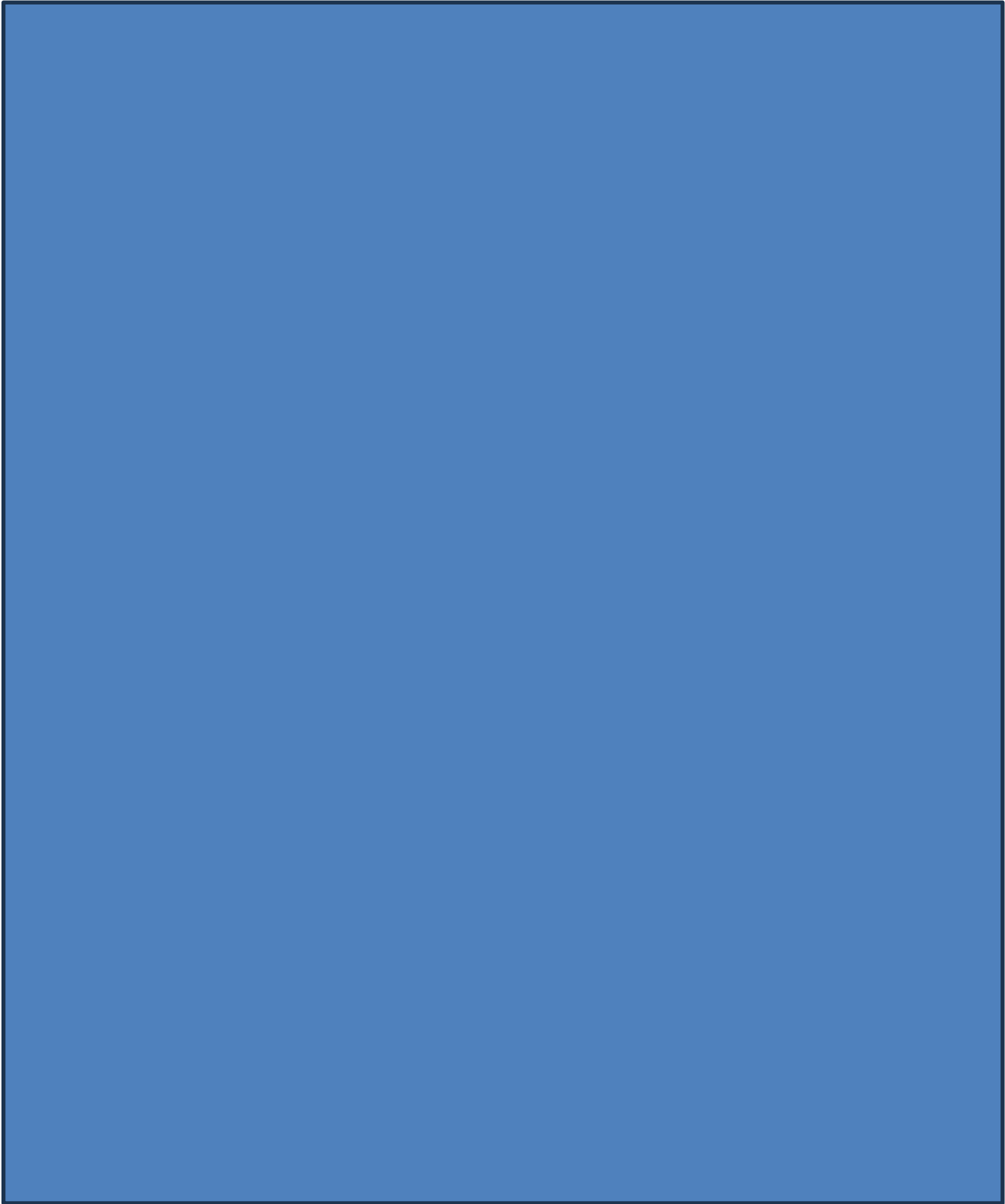
## TASMANIA HOUSES



**NORTHERN TERRITORY UNITS**



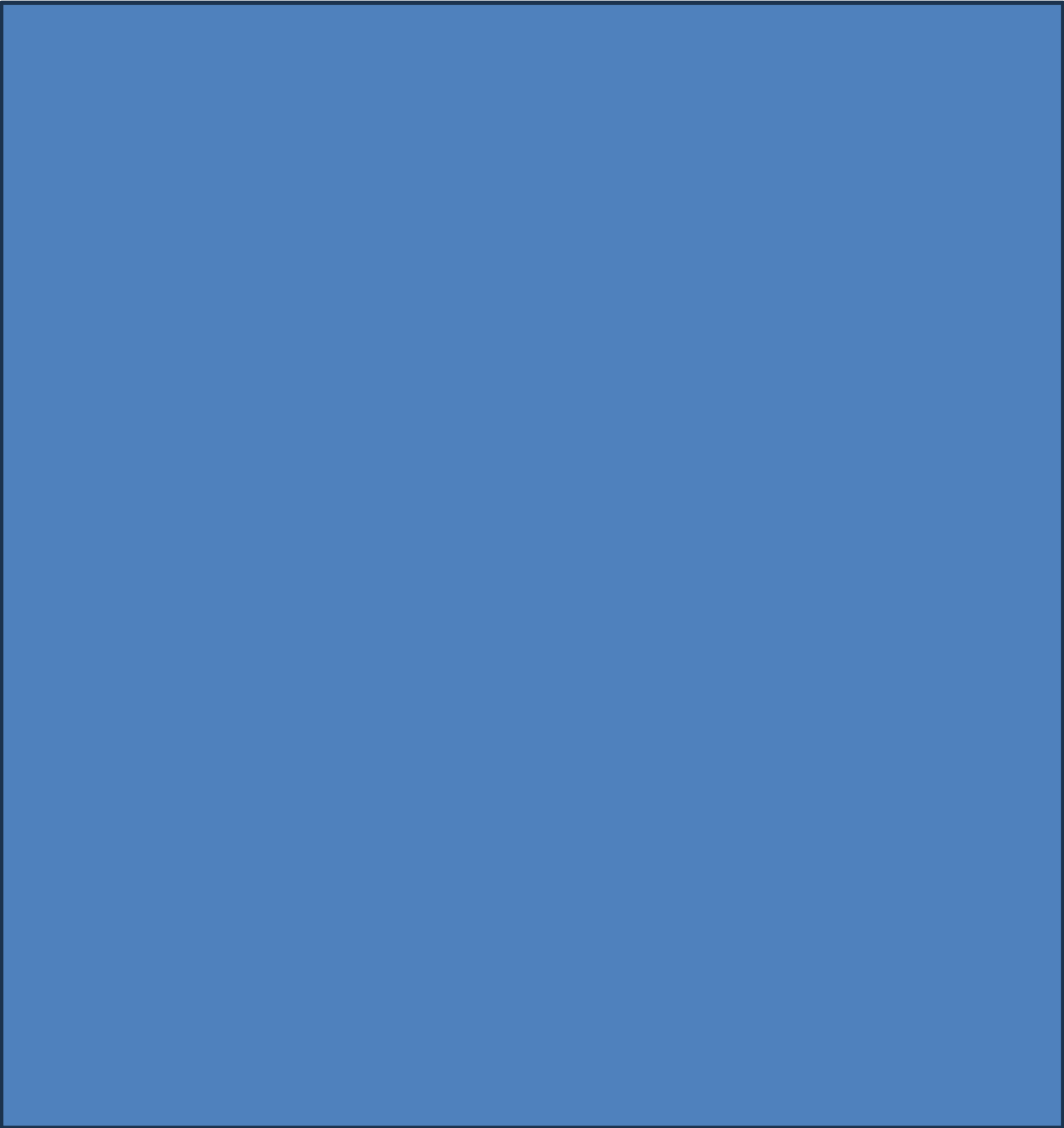
**NORTHERN TERRITORY HOUSES**



## 6) Our cash cow suburbs with potential in New Zealand

These tables reveal the suburbS which meets our selection criteria in New Zealand.

### NEW ZEALAND



## 7) What the information in the Australian suburb tables means

### **Suburb and Postcode**

There are many different ways to describe locations in Australia such as localities, hubs, villages, precincts, regions, towns and districts. The ones used officially in our reports are suburbs. The purpose of the Postcode is to ensure that you have selected the right suburb, as many suburbs share the same name.

### **Type of property**

All property data gathered by housing market analysts and published by major data providers is for houses or units. This means that you need to consider townhouses, duplexes and villas as either houses or units, according to which of these two types of housing they most closely resemble in the suburb.

### **Low buy price and high buy price**

Buying a property that is typical for the area is a form of demand insurance. For this reason, we provide a low and high buy price range for either houses or units in the selected suburb, within which typical properties will generally be priced.

Buying a property within this price range means that your property should be fairly typical and easier to rent now and then sell later. This is because renters and buyers will have certain expectations for property attributes when they look in the area, such as number of bedrooms, bathrooms, floor area or land size, and will prefer properties which meet their expectations.

For example, potential buyers or renters looking for properties in a suburb which typically has three-bedroom houses with one bathroom, will not be attracted to a dwelling which has four or more bedrooms, two bathrooms and maybe even a pool or other improvement. Not only will this property be valued and rented at a much higher price, it is not what buyers and tenants expect to find in such a suburb.

Housing finance providers will usually also set upper loan limits which are based around the median price, so buyers will find it difficult to obtain sufficient finance for properties whose asking prices are well above those for typical properties. It is also important for you to know that our predictions are based on typical properties which means that they may not be accurate for atypical properties such as those priced outside the buy price range provided.

### **Market conditions for potential buyers**

To assess the current market conditions for buyers, the HOMPS system collects information for houses or units in a suburb which compares the number of potential buyers to the number of intending sellers and then factors in the total stock of houses or units currently for sale on the market.

If all these conditions suit buyers, the market is said to be favourable for them to buy a property at a good price.

If, some but not all of the current conditions suit buyers, the market is said to be neutral – which means that the buyer's prospects of obtaining a good price depend on whether there are other properties on the market which are similar in price, condition and appearance to the subject property, as these make conditions less competitive for potential buyers

The buyer's prospects in neutral market conditions are also more reliant on their negotiation skills or whether they use the services of an accomplished buyer's agent. If none of the conditions favour buyers, the market is said to be unfavourable for them to buy a property at a good price.

## **Market conditions for intending sellers**

To assess the current market conditions for current owners and intending sellers, the HOMPS system collects information for houses or units in a suburb which compares the number of potential buyers to the number of intending sellers and then factors in the total stock of houses or units currently for sale on the market. If all these conditions suit owners, the market is said to be favourable for them to sell a property quickly and at a good price.

If some but not all of the current conditions suit sellers, the market is said to be neutral – which means that the owner's prospects of selling quickly and at a good price depend on whether there are other properties on the market which are similar in price, condition and appearance to the subject property, as these make conditions more competitive for potential sellers.

The owner's prospects in neutral market conditions are also more reliant on the marketing and sales skills of the real estate agent they engage to sell the property for them. If none of the conditions suit current owners or intending sellers, the market is said to be unfavourable for them to sell a property quickly or at a good price.

## **Cash flow potential**

This shows you the cash flow potential for the type of property in the suburb.

**STRONG** Cash flow potential is indicated when current rental demand is greater than the supply of rental properties and is likely to rise further, resulting in high rental yields and low vacancy rates.

**BALANCED** Cash flow potential is indicated when current rental demand is balanced by the supply of rental properties and is not likely to change in the immediate future.

**WEAK** Cash flow potential is indicated when current rental supply is greater than the demand for rental properties, resulting in low rental yields and high vacancy rates.

**RISKY** Cash flow potential is indicated when current rental supply is far greater than the demand for rental properties and any high rental yields are caused by falling prices, not by rental demand.

## Prediction accuracy rating

Our predictions are based on patented models which use the forecasting methodologies outlined in this report. It is important to note that for the following reasons, it is not possible to predict market movement outcomes with 100% accuracy:

- The data on which the predictions are based can unexpectedly change.
- The data itself may not be correct, even though we always check our data sources.
- The dynamics of the local housing market may change.
- Unforeseen economic, social or political events may impact the housing market.

However, the technology provided by the HOMPS database offers a predictive certainty that is always greater than 50% and is designed to support your own assessment of the risks of median price movement and price performance in purchasing a property in any particular suburb.

## Potential rental yield

This is an estimate of the potential rental yield for houses or units in the suburb based on expected rental demand and forecast price movements over the next two to three years.

## Short-term, medium and long-term growth outlooks

This shows you the price growth outlook for the type of property in the suburb.

**HEAVY FALLS** tells you that there is potential for median prices to fall by an average of 10% per annum or more over the forecast period.

**MODERATE FALLS** indicates that there is potential for median prices to drop by an average of less than 10% per annum over the forecast period.

**BALANCED** markets mean that little change in median prices is likely over the forecast period.

**MODERATE GROWTH** indicates that there is potential for median prices to rise by an average of less than 10% per annum over the forecast period.

**STRONG GROWTH** indicates that there is potential for median prices to rise by an average of 10% per annum or more over the forecast period.

## 8) What the information in the New Zealand suburb tables means

### Suburb, district and city

There are many different ways to describe locations in New Zealand such as localities, hubs, villages, precincts, regions, towns and districts. The ones used officially in our reports are suburbs. The purpose of the District or City is to ensure that you have selected the right suburb, as many suburbs in New Zealand share the same name.

### Most popular type of property

All property data gathered by housing market analysts and published by major data providers is for houses, townhouses or units. This means that you may need to consider duplexes and villas as either houses or units, according to which of these types of housing they most closely resemble in the suburb.

### Current weekly median rent

This is the weekly rent in New Zealand dollars that the owner of a typical property in the suburb can expect to receive.

### Cash flow potential

This shows you the cash flow potential for a typical property in the suburb.

**STRONG** Cash flow potential is indicated when current rental demand is greater than the supply of rental properties and is likely to rise further, resulting in high rental yields and low vacancy rates.

**BALANCED** Cash flow potential is indicated when current rental demand is balanced by the supply of rental properties and is not likely to change in the immediate future.

**WEAK** Cash flow potential is indicated when current rental supply is greater than the demand for rental properties, resulting in low rental yields and high vacancy rates.

**RISKY** Cash flow potential is indicated when current rental supply is far greater than the demand for rental properties and any high rental yields are caused by falling prices, not by rental demand.

### Median sale price

Buying a property that is typical for the area is a form of demand insurance. For this reason, we provide the current median sale price in New Zealand dollars for either houses or units in the selected suburb, as typical properties will generally be priced within ten percent above or below this price.

Buying a property at or near the current median price means that your property should be fairly typical and easier to rent now and then sell later. This is because renters and buyers will have certain expectations for property attributes when they look in the area, such as number of bedrooms, bathrooms, floor area or land size, and will prefer properties which meet their expectations.

For example, potential buyers or renters looking for properties in a suburb which typically has three-bedroom houses with one bathroom, will not be attracted to a dwelling which has four or more bedrooms, two bathrooms and maybe even a pool or other improvement. Not only will this property be valued and rented at a much higher price, it is not what buyers and tenants expect to find in such a suburb.

Housing finance providers will usually also set upper loan limits which are based around the median price, so buyers will find it difficult to obtain sufficient finance for properties whose asking prices are well above those for typical properties. It is also important for you to know that our predictions are based on typical properties which means that they may not be accurate for atypical properties such as those priced outside the suggested sale price range.

## Price movement trend

This shows you the price growth outlook for a typical property in the suburb.

**PRICES FALLING** tells you that there is potential for median prices to fall based on current market trends.

**BALANCED** means that little change in median prices is likely based on current market trends.

**MODERATE GROWTH** indicates that there is potential for median prices to rise by an average of less than 10% per annum based on current market trends.

**STRONG GROWTH** indicates that there is potential for median prices to rise by an average of 10% per annum or more based on current trends.

## Prediction accuracy rating

Our predictions are based on patented models which use the forecasting methodologies outlined in this report. It is important to note that for the following reasons, it is not possible to predict market movement outcomes with 100% accuracy:

- The data on which the predictions are based can unexpectedly change.
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- The dynamics of the local housing market may change.
- Unforeseen economic, social or political events may impact the housing market.

However, the technology provided by the HOMPS database offers a predictive certainty that is always greater than 50% and is designed to support your own assessment of the risks of median price movement and price performance in purchasing a property in any particular suburb.

## 9) How to find off-market and pre-market hidden gems

### **What are off-market and pre-market properties?**

Potential buyers usually search for properties by trawling on-line listing sites, where estate agents post images, asking prices and other information about properties that they have been engaged to sell by the owners.

Buyers may also visit real estate agent offices, whose brochures and shopfront displays feature images and other information about properties they have listed for sale.

Many properties, however, are sold without having been listed on such sites or in real estate agent advertising collateral and they fall into these main categories.

### **Owners who don't want their properties publicly listed**

When people with high public profiles such as entertainers, politicians and actors put their homes on the market, they often don't want strangers walking around their properties during inspections and open days. They may not want the public to know that they are selling, or even where they live.

Some people value their privacy, or have reclusive natures and simply don't want strangers wandering around their homes. Changes in personal circumstances such as death, divorce and debt often create a need for discretion which motivates some owners to sell without publicly listing the property.

Some vendors do not want to pay the advertising cost or potential delays that can occur when properties are listed. Although this could mean a lower sale price, there are no marketing and advertising costs for the vendor to pay.

In all of these situations, the vendors will still engage a real estate agent to sell their property, but without publicly listing or otherwise promoting the property. This works because agents are always receiving inquiries from buyers interested in buying a property in their location and many will simply email or otherwise contact a local agent to see there are properties available which suit their needs.

The real estate agent can easily match these potential buyers directly to properties that the agent has been engaged to sell off-market. Not only does this make the agent's work easier, but it often means a quick, hassle-free sale.

### **Owners who are in the process of choosing a real estate agent**

It's not only potential buyers who can notify agents that they are looking for certain types of properties and locations. Potential sellers often shop around comparing agent commissions and services, so that agents have a list of properties that may soon be going on the market, which makes these pre-market rather than off-market opportunities.

## How to find these off-market and pre-market properties

In all of the above situations, the property is still considered to be on the market, because the vendor wants to sell and the property is available to purchase. However because it is invisible to the general public we use the terms pre-market and off-market.

Any real estate agent could have a number of these off-market and pre-market properties, so you need to make contact and establish relationships with agents who are selling in the suburbs you are interested in.

Notify these local agents that you are a serious buyer, with pre-approval and tell them the preferred location and type of property that you are looking for. Try not to divulge how much you are prepared to pay, but give them a rough price range, Ask if they have any off-market or pre-market properties on their books, what the owners would be prepared to sell for, and what settlement terms would appeal to the owner.

This is gold for real estate agents, because they can use your interest in buying to convince potential vendors to sell with lines such as “We have motivated buyers in your area” And, if they do have any pre-market or off-market properties to sell, you’ll be the first to know about them.

## Some properties are genuine off-market opportunities



Some owners don't want to pay the agent's commissions or marketing costs, and decide to sell privately. They can make use of selling kits such as [buymyplace.com.au](http://buymyplace.com.au) that enable them to promote and sell their property without using a real estate agent.

As a potential buyer, you can also take matters into your own hands and search for owners who may be motivated to sell. You may engage a buyers agent to do this for you, or go out and hunt for potential sellers yourself.

One obvious but time consuming way to do this is to prospect the location that you are interested in by foot or car, searching for the right type of property, which is normally a distressed property, (one needing work) or a distressed owner (one needing to sell).

By door knocking and letter box dropping, you may eventually find an owner who is motivated to sell, either because of financial trouble or because the property needs work that they either can't or won't undertake.

Your strategy is to offer the owner a fair price and suggest that there is no need for open homes, no marketing costs and no dealing with estate agents, which can make the sale process better suited to both parties. Sites such as [PropertyValue.com.au](http://PropertyValue.com.au) offer a free price estimate of any Australian property and will also reveal the last sale price and date, which can help you to determine a price which the owner might accept and make a formal offer.

Although it's normally the seller's responsibility, you may need a conveyancer to draw up a standard contract of sale and covering the terms of settlement.

## 10) How to maximise your success

There is always a degree of unpredictability about the future, whether it concerns predicting the result of a football game, interest rate movements, or the housing market. It is therefore crucial to maximise your chances of success in using this report by taking the following into account.

### **Understand the local dynamics**

Our predictive methodologies are based on the indicators and dynamics of supply and demand to identify areas with growth potential. This means that they can accurately forecast the likelihood of change, but there are many factors which can impact housing market growth in any suburb, city or region, so it is essential that you understand the dynamics, such as population movements and change, types of households, percentage and type of renters and the percentage and cause of unoccupied housing.

Much of this demographic' information can be gained from QuickStats, a free on-line research facility produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics or StatsNZ in New Zealand, and also on Local Government sites.

### **Do your own on the ground research**

Being well informed about the type of housing market and how it might change is a critical part of your due diligence. Even when you are satisfied that the dynamics and indicators are pointing in the same direction, you need to do your own 'on the ground' research by checking with as many local reliable sources as you can find to confirm or refute what the numbers are telling you.

### **Houses and units may perform differently**

Our predictions for each location are provided either for house or unit markets. Although there are many different types of dwellings offered for sale on the market such as units, apartments, townhouses, villas duplexes, terraces and free-standing houses, our title systems recognise only two – those built on Torrens Title or Old System Title, which are usually houses, and those on Strata Title or Company Title, which are usually units.

All property data gathered by housing market analysts and published by major data providers is therefore for houses or units. This means that you need to consider townhouses, duplexes and villas as either houses or units, according to which of these two types of housing they most closely resemble in the suburb as measured by median asking prices, median asking rents, types of renters and types of buyers.

### **Nearby suburbs may perform differently**

Even though suburbs close by or next to those suburbs selected in our reports may have the same types of housing and asking prices, this is no assurance that they may have the same growth potential. Each suburb will perform according to its own unique set of dynamics and while it is common for similar types of housing markets to perform in the same way, there is no guarantee that this applies to all suburbs in a particular market area.

## **Properties with high or low market value may perform differently**

Demand creates the median asking price, because it measures the middle price of a group of properties for sale. Selecting a house or unit close to the median price is an easy way of ensuring that both rental and purchase demand will be higher than in those properties at the high- or low-priced ends of the market.

To assist you, we provide sale prices within which typical properties will generally be priced. Buying within this range means that your property will be easier to rent and to sell, because future renters and buyers will have certain expectations for property attributes when they look in the area, and your property may not meet them.

In addition, our predictions are based on typical properties which means that they may not be relevant to atypical properties or those priced outside the buy price range provided.

The only exception to this rule is when you are buying a property for cosmetic or structural renovations, in which case the expected selling price of your renovated property should be close to or slightly above the median asking price. To successfully achieve this, your purchase price should be at the low end of the asking price range for that suburb.

## **Different types of property may perform differently**

Buying a property that is typical for the area is much better than purchasing an atypical property, such as a five-bedroom house in a three-bedroom locality or a loft or studio apartment in a suburb where most units have two bedrooms. Such a property will be harder to sell and more difficult to rent, as renters and buyers will have certain expectations where they look in the area, and your property may not meet them.

## **Buy with your head, not your heart**

You may find your dream home when researching an investment property, but you will not live there, and the expected rental and purchase demand should be your priority. Extras such as a pool or landscaped gardens, while they appear attractive will prove to be costly burdens to maintain and can even make the property harder to rent, as the greatest rental demand may be for different types of properties.

## **Avoid paying more than market value**

If prospective vendors are aware that demand is higher than supply, they may encourage buyers to compete against each other, refuse to discount excessively ambitious asking prices and use sales processes such as auctions to drive prices up. In addition, if there are few listings in an area, it can be difficult for buyers to know a property's fair market value. The problem is that if you pay too much, you are handing some of your profit to the seller and will not achieve the predicted level of growth. You may not even achieve any growth at all, so paying no more than market value is an essential step in successful investment.

While there are many free property price reports available on line, many of these are no more than lead generation devices, and provide little more than a list of recent sales, the median price of properties in the suburbs, or even an estate agent's appraisal. You can either pay for a property price report from a recognised property market information provider or estimate the market value yourself by comparing recent sale prices of similar properties in the area.

## **Only use up to date information**

Just as you wouldn't read last week's New York Times newspaper to find out what happened in Sydney yesterday, make sure that all the housing data you rely on is up to date and from a reliable and appropriate source.

It is essential that this report is recent, as our predictions are like snapshots in time which constantly change along with the dynamics of the market and they may no longer be valid if this report is older than three months.

## **Always use the same data source**

The housing market is complex and because of this, major data providers such as Cotality, PropTrack, APM, Real Estate Institute of Australia, the Australian Bureau of Statistics, StatsNZ as well as popular listing sites such as realestate.com.au and realestate.co.nz have each developed their own way of measuring median sales prices and presenting historical data. The result is that each provider's data is different, which adds to the complexity and also the confusion that investors face when attempting to use the information provided.

The variations can be due to variations in the area being measured, the way in which different types of dwellings are categorised and the method of analysis. For example, the geographic boundaries of Sydney can be defined in various ways so that different areas are being measured by each.

Sales results are provided for houses or units, so that townhouses, villas and duplexes must be slotted into one category or the other, or as in the case of Cotality, a composite 'dwelling' index is produced which lumps all types of properties into one category.

In addition, each provider has a different way of measuring the actual changes in price that have occurred, such as repeat sales (measuring the change in price for the same properties) median sale price (measuring the change in price for all property sales), median value (measuring the change in price for all properties), hedonic value (measuring the change in price for similar types of properties), weighted median (measuring the change in price weighted by number of sales), stratified median (measuring the change in price for different sale price ranges) and so on.

These variations result in the same suburbs having different median sale prices and also having different historical price changes. It is not a question of who is right and who is wrong, as each measures the market in a different way. The way to deal with this problem is to always ensure that your data source is from a recognised data provider such as Cotality or PropTrack and always use the same source.

You can even use these variations to your own advantage by understanding what the different methods of data analysis tell you – for example, the median sale price is the middle point of all sales in an area over a given period of time. A reduction in the median sale price in a suburb even though the number of sales is rising could mean that prices are about to shoot upwards, which I call the ‘slingshot’ effect.

This occurs because the ‘cheapies’ and bargains in a potential growth area are invariably cherry picked first, so that the median price falls even as the number of sales are rising.

## **Beware of the misleading median**

In suburbs where the types of properties which are on the market or have recently been sold vary from the attributes of the most common types of properties in that suburb, the median asking and median sale price can move up or down very quickly and dramatically, giving the impression that price growth or price falls are taking place. In reality, such variations can simply be due to changes in the type of dwellings that have recently been built and sold.

The most common situations where this can occur is in suburbs near universities, teaching hospitals or other educational institutions with a proliferation of loft, studio and single bedroom developments designed for student accommodation. Examples are Carlton in Melbourne and Ultimo in Sydney. Because these new dwellings are usually very much smaller than older dwellings in the suburbs, they lead to highly misleading median sale price, rent and yield data being produced.

Another example of the misleading median is in suburbs where there has been rapid growth in the number of units marketed for retirement living. This leads to a decrease in median asking sale prices, which is likely to result in lower sale prices in future as these dwellings are sold.

The other end of the misleading median scale occurs in well-established suburbs and towns consisting mainly of older, modest three-bedroom homes where developers offer new four bedroom houses with ensuites and double garages, sometimes on acreage, which are priced well above the current median price for the older houses.

This rise in sale price gives the impression of overall growth in the local housing market which is actually caused by the new homes being so much bigger and better. There may be no rise in the median price of the existing homes at all, but this is hidden by the misleading median.

## **Always check for overdevelopment potential**

While many investors might view further development in an area as a good outcome, leading to improved amenities and facilities and generating higher prices, the reality is that high density unit development or new land or house and land subdivisions can have very different outcomes. It depends on who these dwellings are marketed to as well as their comparative price and quality compared to existing stock in the area.

New developments marketed to owner/occupiers can lead to the rejuvenation of entire localities if the new stock is substantially superior to existing stock, such as in the refurbishment of older

inner suburbs in major cities. On the other hand, they can cause a degradation of prices if the new stock is inferior, such as loft and studio apartments in inner urban areas, or single bed retirement villas in coastal resorts.

New developments marketed off the plan to investors can lead to oversupplies of rental properties if they are marketed to investors and the rate of new rental stock on the market exceeds the rate of demand. This may not become apparent where and while rental guarantees are provided by the project marketers, but once the rental oversupply emerges it leads to the potential for both rent and price falls as frustrated and even desperate investors try to sell, often many at the same time.

You need to ascertain the numbers to see whether there is any possibility of an oversupply occurring due to the sheer weight of new stock numbers, which can easily occur because developers often work without the benefit of reliable predictive demand data for housing and so tend to rely on past performance to select the best areas for new housing and use recent price and rent growth to promote their developments to investors.

It takes housing developers years to work their way through the various development stages such as project assessments, budgets, finance approvals, development applications, environment impact statements, tenders and contracts, rental demand in a mining town or dormitory town may be falling just as a supply of new housing comes on the market. Many of these developments are sold off the plan, before work has been completed or even commenced, so that the properties may not actually be occupied for several years after they have been purchased.

Many of these developments are project marketed to investors with 'sweeteners' such as rent guarantees built into the sale price, the oversupply may not become apparent for some time, but when it does the possibility of lower rents and prices becomes very real. Examples such as the collapse of the Gold Coast high density unit market from 2008 onwards show us that while it is essential to analyse and estimate potential demand, forecasting future supply is equally important.

Because of the above, you should ensure that your selected suburb is not a candidate for overdevelopment by checking its development potential for land subdivision, house and land sales and medium or high-rise unit development using these three research techniques:

Firstly, drive or walk around the suburb to check whether there are large vacant unused land areas, roads ending abruptly which are obviously intended to go further in the future, vacant shopping strips on main roads with no to let signs or blocks or groups of vacant, even derelict terraces or houses in an area with medium to high rise units. These are all signs that developers own the land.

Secondly, check a listing site for new or off the plan house or unit listings. What often initially appears as one listing on the real estate listing site may reveal a potential development of several hundred units or land subdivision. Go to the developer's or project marketer's site to see their plans for future development of the project, including the number and type of dwellings proposed and the timeline for both sales and occupation.

Thirdly, check with the local council for any development applications in the area, the number and type of dwellings proposed and the timeline for both sales and occupation. If there are significant numbers of new developments underway or proposed in a suburb or locality, you need to check the developer's and project marketer's websites to see who they are being marketed to (overseas investors, local investors or owner/occupiers)

Lastly, you should also compare the quality of the new stock to existing stock (compare listings for new stock to those for existing stock of similar types of housing) and also the asking price of these dwellings compared to existing stock in the area. This will help you to determine the likely effect of the new stock on demand for purchase and rentals of existing stock.

This analysis will enable you to make a much more informed decision based on the likely impact of future stock coming onto the market and will also give you a more accurate insight into the prospects for housing price changes based on what you discover as you conduct your own on the ground research.

## 11) How we source our data

In order to generate the outlooks and predictions provided in this report, we utilise the Housing Market Prediction Solution (HOMPS) which was invented by leading property market analyst and researcher, John Lindeman. HOMPS was awarded an Innovation Patent in 2016 and is owned by Property Power Partners.

HOMPS employs predictive data driven algorithms which reveal the current market conditions as well as the medium and long-term growth dynamics of all types of housing at suburb level over typical buy and hold periods of up to five years. HOMPS measures the long-term changes of all significant "top down" macro indicators as well as trends in "bottom up" micro indicators which operate in the housing market to predict where changes in the dynamics are likely to cause future housing price movements.

We also continuously analyse potential changes in the nature and dynamics of the housing market which may be caused or influenced by both government and private sector policies, strategies, plans and initiatives and gratefully acknowledge the following sources:

State of the Land Report, Urban Development Institute of Australia  
Housing Forecasts, HIA Economics Group  
Our Cities our Future, Department of Infrastructure and Transport  
State of Supply Report, National Housing Supply Council  
Realestate.co.nz, Market Insights  
Stats NZ, Place and Ethnic Group Summaries

### **Australian Bureau of Statistics**

House Price Index – Eight Capital Cities 6416.0 Released quarterly  
Housing Finance Australia 5609.0 Released monthly  
Australian Demographic Statistics 3101.0 Released quarterly  
Dwelling Unit Commencements Australia 8750.0 Released monthly  
ABS QuickStats and ABS Community Profiles – 2016 and 2021 Census data

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## 13) Feedback and more information

We value your feedback on this report, and you are welcome to discuss any aspect of it with us. Please email [info@propertypowerpartners.com.au](mailto:info@propertypowerpartners.com.au) to provide any comments or suggestions for improvement.

Wishing you successful investing,

John Lindeman  
Property Power Partners Pty Ltd