

MEDIA RELEASE

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Highfields Tops Queensland's Population Growth Rates

The Highfields community, north of Toowoomba, is the fastest growing location in Queensland, according to the latest Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) figures released this week.

Noted demographer and Managing Director of Urban Economics, Kerriane Bonwick-Meulman, said the latest ABS population figures highlight Highfields' standing as a rapidly growing community.

She said that of the 18 significant urban areas in Queensland reported by the ABS, Highfields recorded by far the most significant growth in population – 61% between 2001 and 2011 and the largest average annual growth rate of 4.9%.

The next most significant population growth rate in Queensland over the same period was at Hervey Bay, which recorded 42.9% growth between 2001 and 2011 and an average annual growth rate of 3.6%.

“The population growth experienced at Highfields represents close to an additional 6,500 people over the 10 year period for the area,” she said.

“While Highfields is coming off a smaller base, this is very significant growth that outstrips population growth in other regional Queensland locations such as Gladstone and Emerald both of which are resources-based communities.”

Local private developer Lauder Pty Ltd is the developer of the Highfields residential community and its Town Centre, the Highfields Village Shopping Centre which is currently undergoing a multi-million dollar expansion to meet the needs of the fast growing local community.

Founded by John and Jill Stirling, Lauder is a local family-owned and managed business with the Stirling family a long-standing farming and pastoral family from the Darling Downs. The company purchased the 32ha parcel of land for the development of the Highfields community in 1997.

Mac Stirling, Managing Director of Lauder, said Highfields continues to mature into a vibrant, stand-alone community to support its fast-growing population.

“Highfields is a working family community, home to families who are committed to their local community,” he said.

“The fact that our population growth now leads the state demonstrates the vibrancy, activity and appeal of the community, and we look forward to continued growth into the future.

“Since Lauder developed the first smaller 1000sq m sewerred lots in 1998, the area has been embraced by families and retired residents alike.

The development of two high schools in the area by 2017 will see growth accelerate even further as the population of Highfields/Gowrie is projected to more than double over the next 20 years reflecting the appeal of the Highfields lifestyle”

More for you

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