

International Property Consultants

Property Market Report Western Australia

December Quarter 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- Over the six months to December 2017, total office stock in the Perth CBD increased by 108 square metres to a total of 1,769,065 square metres.
- Over the six months to December 2017, Perth CBD's office market experienced an increase of 22,178 square metres in net absorption, resulting in an increase of 1.6% in occupied stock over the period.
- Retail turnover in Western Australia stands at \$2,832.4 million in December, which represents an increase of 0.3% over the month.
- In the Greater Perth region, total number of dwellings approved for construction in December declined by 10.2% over the month to 1,172. Over the last twelve months, this figure represents an increase of 13.8%.
- The Real Estate Institute of Australia's quarterly review of Australia's residential property market indicates that over the September quarter, overall house price in Perth declined by -1.1% to a median price of \$504,300.
- Perth's housing rental market experienced an overall decline in median weekly rent. Inner, Middle and Outer Perth recorded declines of -2.0%, -3.3% and -2.9%, respectively, in median weekly rents over the September quarter.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Perth CBD Office Market	2
Retail Market	3
Industrial Market	4
Residential Market	5
Economic Fundamental	9
About Preston Rowe Paterson	10
Contact us	11



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COMMERCIAL OFFICE MARKET

Perth CBD

Investment Activity

Preston Rowe Paterson Research recorded the following major sales transactions that occurred over the three months to December 2017:

1 William Street, Perth, WA 6000

Primewest has paid **\$175 million** for the Agrade office tower. The 21-level tower has 1,100 m2 floor plates equating to approximately 23,100 m2 of lettable area. The sale reflects a **rate of \$7,576 psm lettable area**.



Supply by Grade (Stock)

Over the six months to December 2017, total office stock in the Perth CBD increased by 108 square metres to a total of 1,769,065 square metres. Withdrawal of space was recorded in A Grade office buildings, and space additions were recorded for B Grade office buildings, whilst Premium Grade, C Grade and D Grade stocks remain unchanged. Premium Grade office space remained unchanged at 356,300 square metres, which takes up 20.1% of total office space in Perth. Total A Grade office stock declined by 1,300 square metres down to 725,000 square metres over the six months to December. A Grade office space dominates Perth's office market with 41% of total space. Total B Grade stock increased by 1,408 square metres to 479,660 square metres over the period, increasing total B Grade office share of total office space to 27.1%. C Grade and D Grade office stock remains unchanged at 200,400 square metres and 7,700 square metres respectively. C Grade office space takes up 11.3% of total office space whilst D Grade office space takes up 0.4%.

Net Absorption

Over the six months to December 2017, Perth CBD's office market experienced an increase of 22,178 square metres in net absorption, resulting in an increase of 1.6% in occupied stock over the period. Net absorption over twelve months stands at approximately 47,308 square metres, resulting in an increase of 3.5% over the period.

Perth CBD's Premium Grade office market experienced an increase of 19,075 square metres in net absorption over the six months to December, which resulted in an increase of 6.1% in occupied space over the period. A Grade stock recorded a net absorption of approximately 9,000 square metres of space, which led to an increase of 1.5% of occupied stock. B Grade stock recorded a decline of -266 square metres of net absorption over the six months to December,

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Leasing Activity

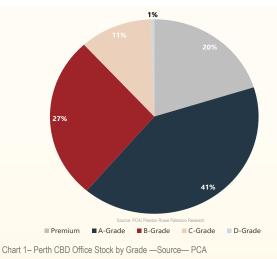
Preston Rowe Paterson Research recorded the following leasing transactions that occurred during the three months to December 2017 in Perth CBD's office market:

45 St Georges Terrace, Perth, WA 6000

Spacecubed has agreed on terms to lease a 2,000 m2 office space over two levels for **15-years**. The annual rent was not disclosed; however rents in the area are about **\$625** psm.



which resulted in a decline of 0.1% in occupied stock over the period. C Grade office market recorded a net absorption of -5,600 square metres, which led to a decline of 3.5% in occupied stock over the period. D Grade stock recorded no change in net absorption over the six months to December.



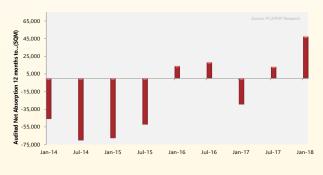


Chart 3- Perth CBD Net Absorption over the 12 months to ... - Source- PCA



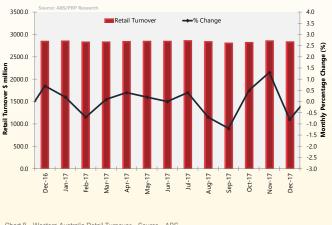
RETAIL STATISTICS

Seasonally adjusted retail turnover for Australia declined by 0.5% in December, following an increase of 1.3% in November and 0.2% in October. During the December quarter, seasonally adjusted increases were recorded for Household goods retailing (+3.4%), Cafes, restaurants & takeaway food services (+1.6%), Clothing, footwear & personal accessory retailing (+2.1%) and Department stores (+2.3%). In contrast, declines were recorded in Food retailing (-1.2%) and Other retailing (-0.6%) over the period. Over the quarter, increases retail turnover were recorded in Victoria (+1.8%), New South Wales (+0.6%), South Australia (+2.4%), Queensland (+0.4%), Tasmania (+.5%) and the Australian Capital Territory (+0.7%). In contrast, Western Australia (-0.2%) and the Northern Territory (-0.1%) both recorded declines in turnover over the quarter.

Retail turnover in Western Australia stands at \$2,832.4 million in December, which represents an increase of 0.3% over the month, though a decline of -0.4% when compared to retail turnover from twelve months prior. Over the month to December, turnover in the Café, restaurant & takeaway food services group increased by 1.7% to \$479.1 million. All other groups recorded declines in their turnovers over the month. Household goods retail turnover declined by -2.4% to \$484.8 million, whilst Department store turnover declined by 2.9% to \$165.9 million. Food retail, Clothing, footwear & personal accessories and Other retail recorded a decline of -0.5%, -1.2% and - 1.4%, respectively, in their turnovers. Food retail turnover declined to \$1,163.7 million, whilst Clothing, footwear & personal accessory retailing declined to \$167.1 million and Other retailing declined to \$371.7 million.



Chart 7—Retail turnover over the Year to December 2017—Source—ABS





Online Retail

The Australian & New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) defines 'retail trade' as "the purchase and on-selling, commission-based buying, and commission-based selling of goods, without significant information, to the general public".

National Australia Bank's latest release of the Online Retail Sales Index indicates that over the month to December, online sales contracted for both domestic and international sales. Domestic sales declined by 3.8% over the month (+6.6% over the month to November), whilst international sales also contracted, by 0.8% (+1.4% over the month to November). Over the last twelve months, online domestic sales increased by 11.0%, whilst international sales increased by 6.2%.

The index notes that over the last year, online spending was made by resident mainly in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland. Residential in the Australian Capital Territory, Northern Territory, Western Australia and New South Wales spend more, on a per capita basis, than the national average, whilst residents in Tasmania, Queensland, Victoria and South Australia spent less than the average over the past year. Victoria recorded the largest growth in online sales over the past year, with 12.6%, whilst sales in the Northern Territory contracted by 4.2% over the same period.



RETAIL MARKET

Investment Activity

Preston Rowe Paterson Research recorded the following significant retail transactions that occurred in the Perth metropolitan areas during the three months to December 2017:

1 Council Avenue, Rockingham, WA 6168

Future Fund and the *Canada Pension Plan Investment Board*- making up *Vicinity Property Retail Partnership Fund* have sold a **50% stake** in **Rockingham Shopping Centre** to *AMP Capital* for **\$300 million**. The 62,314 m2 centre is anchored by **Coles Supermarket**,

Woolworths K-Mart. Supermarket, Target DDS and Ace Cinemas along with some 200 speciality stores and parking for 3,200 vehicles some Rockingham is located approximately 45 m south-west of Perth CBD.



Leasing Activity

Preston Rowe Paterson Research recorded the following leasing transactions that occurred during the three months to December 2017 in Perth's Retail property market:

1480 Albany Highway, Cannington, WA 6107

Primewest has secured *Nick Scali* as a new tenant in the **Primewest Cannington Complex**. *Nick Scali* will lease a 2,052 m2 retail outlet for **7-years**. The annual rent was not disclosed.

Tenancy 2, 27 Kent Way, Malaga, WA 6090

Snooze will lease a 1,065 m2 showroom for **5-years** from landlord *Harvey Norman*. The modern showroom is situated within the **Harvey Norman Centre** with other tenants including **Officeworks**, **BCF, Bedshed** and **Harvey Norman**. The annual rent was not disclosed.



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INDUSTRIAL MARKET

Investment Activity

Preston Rowe Paterson Research recorded the following sales transactions that occurred in the Western Australian metropolitan during the three months to December 2017:

"Secure Seven" Portfolio

Cope Sensitive Freight has sold its "**Secure Seven**" industrial portfolio for **\$31.5** million on a **7.08%** yield to *Ascot Capital*. The seven properties which are located in each of the Australian States are; **21 Pipeclay Avenue, Thornton, Newcastle, NSW, 40 Fulton Drive, Derrimut. Melbourne, 1A Symonds Street, Royal Park, Adelaide, 15 Modal Crescent, Canning Vale, Perth, 16 Anictomatis Road, Berrimah, Darwin, 2-8 Ridley Close, Edmonton, Cairns, Queensland and 229 Kennedy Drive, Cambridge, Tasmania.** Collectively the properties have a total site area of 78,042 m2 and a total of 23,575 m2 of building area. The properties are all fully leased with a WALE of 12-years, and are returning an annual rent of \$2.2 million collectively.

23 Destiny Way, Wangara, WA 6065

Ascot Capital has paid **\$15.1 million** for a 3.5 hectare industrial property from a private vendor. The property is currently leased to **Global Construction Services Limited**. The sale reflects a **rate of \$4,314,286 per hectare (improved)**. Wangara is located approximately 19.2 km north of Perth CBD.

50 Triumph Avenue, Wangara, WA 6065

Ascot Capital has acquired a 7,599 m2 industrial property for **\$6.65** million dollars from a private investor. The property is currently leased to **i-Tech Services**. The sale reflects a **rate of \$875 psm lettable area**. Wangara is located approximately 19.2 km north of Perth CBD.

Leasing Activity

Preston Rowe Paterson Research recorded the following leasing transactions that occurred during the three months to December 2017 in Western Australia's Industrial property market:

7 Honeybush Drive, Joondalup, WA 6027

Fantastic Holdings-Plush will lease a 1,001 m2 warehouse for **5-years**. The tenant will **pay an annual rent of \$240,240 showing \$240 psm.**

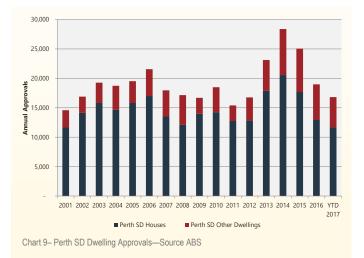


RESIDENTIAL MARKET

Building Approvals

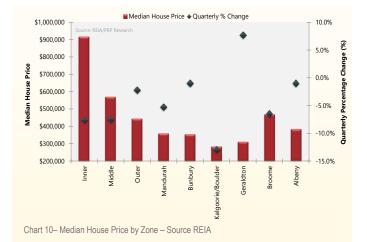
Across Australia, total dwellings approved declined by a seasonally adjusted 20.0% over the month to December. Approvals for the construction of private sector houses increased by 1.0%, whilst the estimate for approvals of for the construction other dwellings declined by 39.2%. Seasonally adjusted value of total building approved declined by 17.8% in December. Notably, the value of residential building fell by 25.4%, whilst the value of non-residential buildings fell 3.4%. In trend terms, dwelling approvals declined in December in the Australian Capital Territory (-35.0%), the Northern Territory (-12.9%), New South Wales (-5.6%), South Australia (-2.4%), Western Australia (-1.3%) and Queensland (-0.8%), however increased in Tasmania (+3.1%) and Victoria (+2.5%).

In the Greater Perth region, total number of dwellings approved for construction in December declined by 10.2% over the month to 1,172. Over the last twelve months, this figure represents an increase of 13.8%. Total number of houses approved for construction declined by 6.2% to 824 over the month to December. This figure represents a decline of -9.1% when compared to twelve months prior. The number of apartments and units approved for construction declined by 18.5% over the month to 348. This figure represents an increase of 94.1% when compared to twelve months prior.



Market Affordability

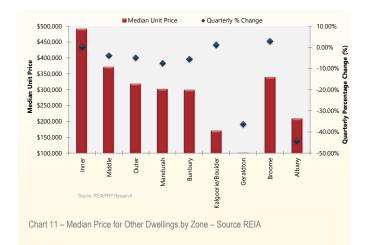
The Real Estate Institute of Australia's quarterly review of Australia's residential property market indicates that over the September quarter, overall house price in Perth declined by -1.1% to a median price of \$504,300. This figure represents a decline of -3.0% over the last twelve months. Inner Perth's median house price declined by -6.5% over the quarter (-1.6% over the year) to \$905,000. There were 532 sales over the period, with sale prices ranging from \$675,000 and \$1,350,000. In Middle Perth, median house price declined by -0.9% over the quarter (-5.5% over the year) to \$576,500. There were 1,470 sales over the period, with sale prices ranging from \$450,000 to \$770,000. Median house price in the Outer Perth region increased by 0.2% over the quarter (-3.0% over the year) to \$446,000. There were 2,887 sales over the period, with sale prices ranging from \$361,000 and \$550,000.



Median sale price of other dwellings in Perth declined by -2.6% over the quarter (-7.1% over the year) to \$399,500. The Inner Perth region recorded an increase of 0.3% in median sales price over the quarter, to \$491,500. This price reflects a decline of -7.8% over the year. There were 480 sales recorded in this region over the quarter, with sale prices ranging from \$365,000 and \$670,000. Median sale price of other dwellings in Middle Perth recorded a decline of -3.8% to \$372,000. There were 423 sales recorded over the period, with sale prices ranging from \$301,300 and \$453,500. Outer Perth's other dwellings recorded a decline of -4.8% on the median sale price over the quarter, down to \$319,000. There were 200 sales recorded over the period, with sale prices ranging from \$265,000 to \$400,000.



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Rental Market

Over the September Quarter, Perth's housing rental market experienced an overall decline in median weekly rent. Inner, Middle and Outer Perth recorded declines of -2.0%, -3.3% and -2.9%, respectively, in median weekly rents over the quarter. Inner Perth's median weekly rent now stands at \$480, whilst Middle Perth's stands at \$367.5 and Outer Perth's stands at \$340. When we look at other dwellings in Perth, Middle and Outer Perth's dwellings recorded declines of -3.1% and -3.4%, respectively, in median rent down to \$310 and \$285. Inner Perth's median weekly rent remained unchanged at \$370.

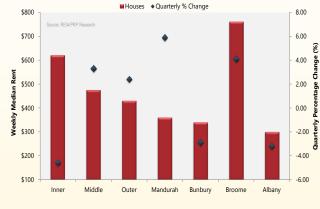
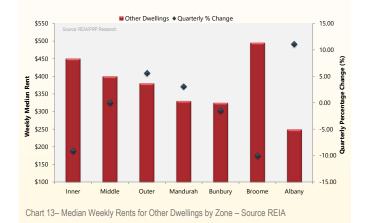


Chart 12-Median Weekly Rents for House by Zone - Source REIA



RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

Stockland's \$91 million Western Australia Acquisitions

Stockland has paid **\$91 million** for 3 separate sites located in a close proximity to Perth. The development company paid **\$11 million** for an 11-hectare site in Brabham, **\$27 million** for 334-hectare site in Baldivis and **\$53 million** for a 40-hectare site in Sinagra. Collectively the properties can potentially yield 4,600 new housing lots in Perth which will be targeted mainly at first home buyers.



Economic Fundamentals

Consumer Price Index

Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by 0.6% over the three months to September 2017, bringing annual change in inflation over the last twelve months to 1.8%. When we look at underlying inflation, a measure which removes the volatile components of inflation and is closely more monitored by the RBA, an increase of 0.4% was recorded over the quarter. Notably, this figure is the second weakest increase ever recorded and leaves the annual rate unchanged at 1.9%. Over the quarter, strong price increases stemming from the Housing group (+1.9%), Alcohol & tobacco group (+2.2%), Recreation & culture group (+1.3%) was offset by declines in Food & non-alcoholic beverages group (-0.9%), Communication group (-1.4%) and Clothing & footwear group (-0.9%).

When we look at the states and territories across the country, All Groups CPI increased across all eight capital cities. Over the year to September, Melbourne recorded the largest increase of 2.2%, followed by Canberra with 2.1% and Hobart with 2.0%. In contrast, Perth and Darwin recorded the lowest increase in inflation over the same period, of 0.8% and 0.6% respectively.

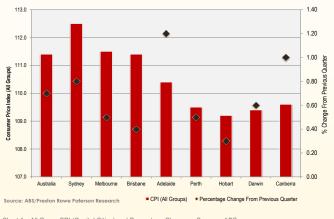


Chart 1-All Group CPI (Capital Cities) and Percentage Change -Source-ABS

Business Sentiment

According to the National Australia Bank (NAB) Monthly Business Survey, business confidence fell 3 points to +6 index points over the month to November. We note that there's been a downward trend in the series since half way through 2016, with firms reacting to the wage pressures as well as the uncertain outlook in demand. The NAB survey suggests that firms are more concerned about the outlook for their businesses, pressures on margins and wage costs on having an influence on business confidence. Nevertheless, confidence levels remain positive across all industries in Australia, with Construction, manufacturing &

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Consumer Sentiment

The Consumer Sentiment Index released by Westpac every month increased by 3.6% to 103.3 in December, from 99.7 in November. The strong results came right before the Christmas and New Year period and confirmed the strengthening of sentiment amongst consumers over the past few months. December quarter's average is 5% above the September quarter average, indicating that consumer sentiment and also just as likely, consumer spending, slumped to a low during the September quarter. Westpac indicates however, that despite the increase recorded during the December quarter, macroeconomic factors affecting Australia at the current stage- such as low savings rate amongst households, high debt levels and weak wage increase- have influenced consumers' capacity to increase spending despite the recorded increase in confidence.

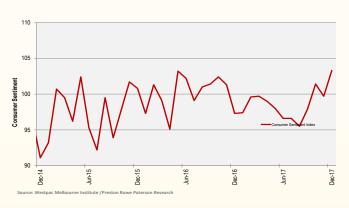


Chart 2-Consumer Sentiment Index-Source-Westpac Melbourne Institute Survey

	December 2016	November 2017	December 2017
Consumer Sentiment Index	97.3	99.7	103.3
Family finance vs. a year ago	102.5	105.4	107.3
Economic conditions next 12 months	91.6	96.2	101.1
Time to buy a dwelling	102.9	98.3	100.6

Table 1- Consumer Sentiment- December 2017 - Source- National Australia Bank



Gross Domestic Product

In the September Quarter 2017, the Australian economy increased by 0.6%, following an increase of 0.9% in the June Quarter. Over the year, Australia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased a seasonally adjusted 2.8%. Over the quarter, the better than expected growth over the twelve months to September was supported by the negative data from the September quarter 2016 dropping out, taking annual growth figures close to average level. Furthermore, both the public and private sectors performed strongly. Households' final consumption expenditure increased by a seasonally adjusted 0.1%, driven by an increase in Insurance & financial services (1.3%), Rent & other dwelling services (0.6%) and Food (1.0%) and offset by declines in spending on Health (-1.0%), Hotels, cafes & restaurants (-0.9%) and Recreation & culture (-0.6%). Final consumption expenditure by governments increased by a seasonally adjusted 0.2%, with State & local government consumption growing by 0.4%, whilst National government consumption declining by 0.1%.

When we look at the production chain volume measure, growths were recorded in most sectors across Australia including: Mining (1.1%), Manufacturing (1.5%), Electricity, gas, water & waste services (1.9%) and Construction (0.6%). These gains were offset by contractions in the Agriculture, forestry & fishing (-4.1%) sector, Information, media & telecommunication (-1.3%) sector and the Rental, hiring & real estate (-1.6%) sector.

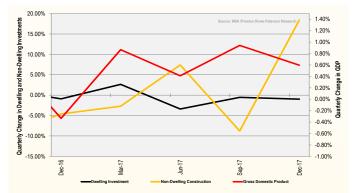


Chart 3- Percentage Change in Dwelling, Non-Dwelling Investments and GDP- Source: ABS



Chart 4- Seasonally Adjusted GDP and Seasonally Adjusted Change in GDP- Source: ABS

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Unemployment

Over the month to December 2017, seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased by 0.1% to 5.5%, whilst the participation rate increased from 65.5% to 65.7%. 34,700 employed persons were added onto the market across Australia from November to December, of which 15,100 persons were in full-time positions and 19,500 in part-time roles. Over the twelve months to December 2017, a total of 303,400 persons had been employed in full-time roles, whilst part-time employment over the same period increased by 99,700. Notably, 2017 was the first full year which recorded employment increases every month since statistics began to be published in 1978. Furthermore, the employment to population ratio increased by 0.1% to 62% over the month and 1.0% over the year, whilst the participation rate increased to a seven year high of 65.7%.



Chart 5- Unemployment Persons and Unemployment Rate- Source: ABS

	Unemployment Rate (%)			Participation Rate (%)		
	December 2017	September 2017		December 2017	September 2017	
Australia	5.5	5.5	-	65.7	65.2	
New South Wales	4.8	4.6		64.6	63.8	
Victoria	6.1	6.0		66.4	66.3	
Queensland	6.0	5.9		65.8	65.4	
South Australia	5.9	5.8		62.1	62.0	
Western Australia	5.7	5.7	-	68.5	68.2	
Tasmania	6.1	5.7		61.3	61.1	
Northern Territory*	4.9	4.1		76.1	73.2	
Australian Capital Territory*	3.9	4.4	•	72.6	71.3	•

Table 2— Unemployment Rate and Participation Rate— Source: ABS * Trend figures used for NT and ACT as seasonally adjusted data for both are not publicly available



10 Year Bond & 90 Day Bill Rate

Australian 10-year bond yields floated between 2.47% and 2.87% over the December quarter, peaking at the beginning of October and slumping to the lowest level at the end of November. Over the month of December, 10-year bond yields increased to a high of 2.58%, from November's 2.57%. Notably, bond yields finished off the year lower than when it started, with a twenty basis point different compared to the beginning of the year. Furthermore, the spread to US Treasury bond yields has declined over the past few months, even as Australian 10-year government bonds remained stable over the period.

In October, Australia experienced less favourable inflation figures, prompting bond yields to fall by 0.17% to 2.67%. Through November, bond yields rallied further, with weak wage inflation figures influencing yields to decline, by 0.17% to a low of 2.50% for the month. Bond yields increased over the month of December which reflected capital markets pricing for an interest rate increase by the fourth quarter of 2018.

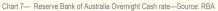


Interest Rates

The Reserve Bank of Australia has left interest rates unchanged at 1.50 per cent over the December quarter. This makes it the fifteenth consecutive meeting that the RBA has left rates unchanged, despite changes in economic conditions in both domestic and global economies. RBA Governor, Philip Lowe, have noted the above-trend growth figures in a number of advanced economies, though uncertainty still entails around the trajectory of future global economic growth. When we look at Australia's major trading partner in China, their economy have shown vast improvements from the increased spending in infrastructure and property construction, though the RBA noted the medium-term risk stemming from an increasingly high debt level. Consequently, the RBA expects Australia's terms of trade to decline in the near future, albeit remaining at a relatively high level.

Australia's economy is forecast to grow on average 3 per cent over the next few years, after recording on trend growth rate over the September quarter. Business conditions are expected to increase further into the new year, with positive outlooks stemming from non-mining business investments. In saying this, the RBA also noted the uncertain outlook for household consumption, with slow income growths combined with high debt levels. Inflation and wage growth remain low, as is the same for most developed countries, though the RBA has forecasted for inflation to increase gradually as the economy picks up pace.





Exchange Rate

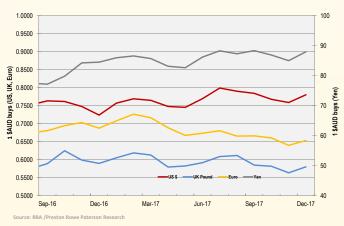


Chart 8— Movement in Exchange Rate—Source: RBA



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Our Research

At Preston Rowe Paterson, we pride ourselves on the research which we prepare in the market sectors within which we operate. These include Commercial, Retail, Industrial, Hotel & Leisure and Residential property markets as well as infrastructure, capital and plant and machinery markets

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- Industrial manufacturing equipment
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Preston Rowe Paterson acts for an array of clients with all types of real estate, plant, machinery and equipment interests such as:

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- Insurance brokers and companies
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- Lessors and lessees
- Listed and private companies corporations
- Listed Property Trusts
- Local, State and Federal Government Departments and Agencies Mining companies
- Mortgage trusts
- Overseas clients
- Private investors
- Property Syndication Managers
- Rural landholders
- Self managed super funds
- Solicitors and barristers Sovereign wealth funds
- Stock brokers
- Trustee and Custodial companies

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Our clients seek our property (real estate, infrastructure, plant and machinery) services for a multitude of reasons including:

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- Corporate merger & acquisition real estate due diligence
- Due Diligence management for acquisitions and sales
- Facilities management
- Feasibility studies
- Funds management advice & portfolio analysis
- Income and outgoings projections and analysis
- Insurance valuations (replacement & reinstatement costs)
- Leasing vacant space within managed properties
- Listed property trust & investment fund valuations & revaluations
- Litigation support
- Marketing & development strategies
- Mortgage valuations
- Property Management
- Property syndicate valuations and re-valuations
- Rating and taxing objections
- Receivership, Insolvency and liquidation valuations and support/advice

10

- Relocation advice, strategies and consultancy
- Rental assessments and determinations
- Sensitivity analysis Strategic property planning

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