



Media Release

QWest Paterson

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Rates decision disappoints property expert

Today's decision to keep official interest rates on hold is disappointing but came as no surprise to QWest Paterson Chairman Warwick Hemsley who believes further cuts in April or May are more likely.

"QWest Paterson welcomed the February cut as a potential boost to WA's struggling property market, however to date the impact has been relatively negligible," Mr Hemsley said.

"We were hoping that the RBA would remain on the front foot and cut rates a further 25 basis points this month to help steady the market and give it a bit of confidence," Mr Hemsley said.

"It would be unusual for the RBA to cut rates in two consecutive months," Mr Hemsley said.

"Obviously they are holding off to see what happens over the next month or two, however we hope the RBA make a decision next time that will foster further growth in our struggling economy," Mr Hemsley said.

"Unemployment rates continue to climb, consumer confidence remains low and the Perth property market in particular is stagnant," Mr Hemsley said.

"While the RBA obviously has a focus on the Sydney market where investors are still active, Perth and WA is a different story, along with many other states and capital cities across Australia," Mr Hemsley said.

"The Brisbane and Adelaide markets are flat and Melbourne is slowing," Mr Hemsley said.

"The WA economy is struggling to adjust to post mining boom conditions and we require the property market and construction industries to pick up some of the slack in order to stimulate positive activity," Mr Hemsley said.

"A further cut in rates would go some way to achieving that outcome."

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