



MEDIA RELEASE

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Tasmanian Planning Commission recommendations on visitor accommodation don't go far enough

Local Government notes the Tasmanian Planning Commission's report on standards for visitor accommodation in planning schemes, released today.

LGAT President Mayor Doug Chipman advised that the Association's position remained that the simplest and fairest way to regulate short term visitor accommodation is to differentiate between those properties which are people's private residence and those which are a secondary or investment property.

"Local Government supports retention of the exemption for true home sharing, however we believe that the regulation for investment properties and shacks should be left to councils to define" Mayor Chipman said.

Mayor Chipman noted councils are in the best position to assess the local circumstances, determine what the impacts will be on their local communities and set regulation accordingly.

"This would simplify the messaging for property owners, enhance our understanding of where people are wanting to set up short time visitor accommodation and allow councils some control over how much of that accommodation is allowed before it changes the essential characteristics of a residential area" said Mayor Chipman.

LGAT notes that the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) has acknowledged the greater potential for amenity impacts on surrounding residents with visitor accommodation in shacks and investment properties. It is disappointed, however, that the TPC they have failed to address this in its recommendations in any meaningful way.

Local Government also supports the recommendation for the State Government to collect the necessary data to determine the impact visitor accommodation is having on housing availability and affordability and looks forward to engaging with the Government on how this process. can be expedited

For media enquiries, please contact LGAT President Mayor Doug Chipman on 0409704835