



# **MANUEL TOWERS**

## **Boutique Accommodtion**

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**Ms. Jessica Shaw MLA Chair.**

**We as a local registered fully insured regulated Shoalwater Accommodation business owners and local residents who have been operating since 2005 wish to advice the dramatic effect Air B&B have had on us and our industry. When we opened there were 12 Bed and breakfasts successfully operating in the immediate area, we all networked together, and did very well. In the last 4 years since Air B&B hit our shores, we have noted a large decline in both our booking numbers and consequent takings by at least half. Now there are only 4 of us left. We and local hotels have had to drop our prices to try to compete with these "Cowboy operators" Our expenses have remained the same or gone up. We have 27 Air B&Bs in our little of suburb of Shoalwater alone. The money is still there it is just going into other unregistered uninsured pockets.**

**We have had to reduce staff hours affecting local residence who work for us. This has across the board a follow on effect on our local economy, When you take this state wide with now over 11500 Air B&B operators in WA it is staggering. All the commissions go to America. We have to pay tax I wonder how many of these unregistered operators declare theirs?? It has to stop. Other countries have put bans on them, we must too. We ask the government to help us put our industry back to what is was before. Safeguarding our jobs and keeping the money in Australia and taxes duly paid.**

**Alison & Manuel Nunez**