

Inquiry into Short Stay Accommodation in WA

Our Business consists of a Tavern with Licence, Restaurant with Licence and Accommodation (3.5 star). The business is situated in a small rural town 20 minutes from a regional city. 15 minutes to another rural town where there is a motel.

There are a few Bed and Breakfasts in the area and many Short Stay Accommodation options.

We employ 15 staff all whom live in the local area and provide work to many sub contractors whom live in the area.

Our business gets its revenue from tourism (60%), the local population (35%) and workers in the area (5%).

Short Stay Accommodation in small towns where there are limited accommodation options is extremely beneficial to businesses like ours as this type of accommodation provides additional holiday options for tourists to stay. Whilst staying in our towns these people spend money by going to restaurants, taverns and visiting local stores. If all tourists where to bypass small towns and go to larger city areas where accommodation is in plenty, small towns would get limited benefits.

Whilst we agree that Short Stay Accommodation needs to be safe and appropriate, credit needs to be given to the customer who will make these assessments and will either stay or move to other style of accommodation. Short Stay is popular for many reasons and these reasons need to be considered to ensure that WA continues to have a rich and diverse tourist accommodation portfolio.

The position put forward by the AHA is in our opinion very Perthcentric or large City focused and seems to be trying to protect the interests of large corporations that have interests in accommodation rather than considering the overall tourism needs for accommodation across our very large state which is mostly regional or rural where many large corporates do not have accommodation options. For tourism to improve in WA we need more options for tourists to stay in various locations through out our community to encourage community engagement in all towns not just large cities.

Kindest Regards

Ellen Lilly

3rd January 2019