

Submission

No 6

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ACCOMMODATION IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mr Brian Godsell

Date Received: 4/10/2011

[REDACTED]

28th September 2011

The Committee Manager,
Social Policy Committee,
Parliament House,
Macquarie St.,
SDYNEY.
2000

Dear Sir,

I would like to submit the following points for consideration by your committee.

1. I think that any recommendations to come out of your committee should apply to all Boarding Houses not only those providing accommodation for international students.
2. Individual houses located in a residential suburb or area may need to be treated differently to say larger scale accommodation for students provided by a University.
3. Local Councils should have control over planning, development, approvals and be responsible for supervising and ensuring that all requirements are met .
4. Homes and Units approved for boarding houses which are located in a residential suburb or area must be required to blend into the predominant nature of the area.
5. Homes and Units approved for boarding houses which are located in a residential suburb or area must be maintained up to a reasonable standard particularly in relation to maintenance of the outside areas of the house and adjacent footpaths and nature strips.
6. If owners or landlords do not comply with maintenance requirements then Councils should be responsible to mow or repair grass and gardens and recover the cost from the owner/landlord. Adding the cost to annual rates would be a good way.
7. Any boarding house accommodating more than say 3 persons should have a full time resident manager responsible for the proper operation and care of the accommodation..
8. Homes and Units approved for boarding houses which are located in a residential suburb or area must be separated so that any one street or area will not become overcrowded and perhaps run down.
9. Boarding houses should be required to provide a specified ratio of Bathrooms, toilets and kitchens per every "n" boarders. A family 3 bedroom house is not suitable for say 10 or more boarders without added facilities.
10. Proper protection and warning devices must be installed and regularly tested for FIRE danger.

I am in full agreement that there is a requirement for boarding houses and student accommodation, however I have seen first hand here in Marsfield the bad effect that untended properties have on a residential suburb. Some very prestigious streets have seriously declined as the result of a high level of student and other rented accommodation.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission. I hope it will be of benefit to your committee.

Yours faithfully,
Brian Godsell



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