ADEQUACY OF THE REGULATION OF SHORT-TERM HOLIDAY LETTING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name Suppressed

Date Received: 26/10/2015



Subject: Support of Home Sharing

Dear Mr. Stokes,

I am writing to express my support of home-sharing in Sydney. I have been following the news and understand there may be changes about to take place as well as new proposed legislation under consideration.

My family of five have lived in Mosman for 22 years. We enjoy everything that Mosman has to offer and we are actively involved in the local community.

We moved into our current home seven years ago. The house is quite large with five bedrooms, four bathrooms, and a self-contained granny flat. When we moved in 2008, we had no need for the granny flat and used the space for storage.

I first heard of airbnb at a conference on digital media that I attended in Sydney in 2013. I immediately thought that we could put our granny flat to use on airbnb as a way of using the space more effectively, as well as generating some handy income to help offset our cost of living. Being fully self-contained, the room has a separate entrance and access to the rest of our house can be locked, making it ideal for a home sharing service like airbnb. We took our first airbnb guests in January 2014 and have been pleasantly surprised at how popular the room has been. As well as making more effective use of the space, we enjoy meeting and interacting with guests from across Australia and overseas. And the income is proving a handy offset to Sydney's high cost of living.

If the current review were to limit home sharing, we would not be able to share our home and will miss out on the handy income we are earning. Sydney is a city that has been defined by its diversity, and it would be a shame to lose the tourist population looking for more affordable accommodation. Airbnb actually allows our family to use our home efficiently. I strongly believe this concept should be protected.

If there's any other information you need from me don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to the results of your review and hope home-sharing will continue to be allowed.

Yours Sincerely

