

## Media Release

February 19, 2024

### **Parties should consult with short-term accommodation for better policy outcomes**

The Australian Short Term Rental Association (ASTRA) stands ready to work with a Rockliff Liberal Government or a White Labor Government on a policy and regulatory approach for short term rental accommodation in Tasmania.

ASTRA represents Mum and Dad owner/investors in the short-term rental accommodation market across Australia. For the vast majority of ASTRA's members their properties are their sole livelihood, they employ their family members, the properties are heavily mortgaged and in time their properties will fund their retirement in lieu of superannuation.

The short-term rental market accommodation is a vibrant part of Tasmania's economy, particularly the visitor economy. As well as providing an affordable alternative to hotels for families and couples, the short-term rental sector directly employs thousands of Tasmanians as cleaners, front of house and contracts plumbers, electricians, gardeners, general maintenance, laundrettes.

"ASTRA is disappointed that neither major party has properly consulted with the industry to form their policy positions to take to the electorates for this election. It is therefore not surprising that both the Labor and Liberal policies are letting Tasmanians down.

"Both parties policies are full of assumptions, flaws and will not just cost our members part of their livelihood but will rob the visitor economy of a huge influx from people who can't afford a further tax or a stay in a hotel. Both Labor and Liberals policies will do nothing to contribute to the housing crisis. Building new housing will do that," ASTRA Chief Executive Officer, Mitch Price said.

The vast majority of our members are Mum and Dad owner investors who are regularly told by their guests that they wouldn't have been able to come to a local event, support their child at sporting carnival, visit a sick relative, come to concert or festival or visit another part of Australia if they'd had to stay in a hotel."

"Industry research, by Urbis, released last week, shows that nationally Short-Term Rental Accommodation represents less than 3% of housing stock\*. Mitch said.

- Ends.

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## **ABOUT ASTRA**

[The Australian & New Zealand Short Term Rental Association \(ASTRA\)](#) is the peak body representing the short-term residential rental industry in Australia and New Zealand. With industry comprising over 200,000 properties across Australia and 45,000 properties across New Zealand, ASTRA's members represent the interests of hosted and non-hosted residential property owners, operators, managers, agents, and property management and software businesses.

ASTRA's mission is to promote and standardise the residential short-term rental industry through advocacy, education, and research.