

**Media Release**

**Thursday 22 February 2024**

## **Thumbs Up for Cook Government Short Term Rental Reforms**

The Australian and New Zealand Short Term Rental Association (ASTRA) welcomes the Cook Government's incentive-based regulatory reform introduced into the Western Australian Parliament yesterday.

ASTRA represents Mum and Dad owner/investors in the short-term rental accommodation market across Australia and New Zealand. 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 the Western Australian 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 Western Australians as cleaners, front of house and contracts plumbers, electricians, gardeners, general maintenance, laundrettes.

"The Cook Government has worked to strike a balance by protecting the visitor economy by introducing an incentive to short term accommodation operators to convert their property onto the rental market," ASTRA Chief Executive Officer Mitch Price said.

"We also welcome the Government's initiative to set up the register for all short-term accommodation operators to place their details before they can advertise and take bookings.

"Smart and practical reform that is win win our industry and for the economy is what comes when Government consults with industry. ASTRA is pleased that the views of our members were heard during the consultation.

"We would have liked to see a Code of Conduct accompany the Cook Government's reforms. However, we note there is still time before these changes are implemented." 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.