



4 July 2018

Minister for Housing
Level 5, Salamanca Building
4 Salamanca Place
Hobart TAS 7000

via email: roger.jaensch@parliament.tas.gov.au

To the Honourable Roger Jaensch,
Re: Short-term Accommodation Industry Data

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the Housing Summit on 15th March 2018.

Since then, research has been completed by both the University of Tasmania's Institute for the Study of Social Change (ISSC) and from the Rental Deposit Authority who share data with the Tenants' Union of Tasmania. This research highlights the significant impact that the short-term accommodation industry has had on long-term tenancies.

The ISSC research found that a significant number of entire properties are now made available to short-term accommodation providers. At the same time, data from the RDA/TUT found that a large number of rental properties are no longer available to long-term tenants. A copy of this data was provided to yourself and all members of the House of Assembly on 13th June 2018.

Further to the Communique provided to all Summit stakeholders and its commitment to "improve transparency in the rapidly changing sharing economy" we request a list of the data sought by the Government from Airbnb and Expedia/Stayz.

We also request a copy of the data provided by Airbnb and Expedia/Stayz so that we can analyse the data. It is our understanding that the data will be provided by the end of July 2018. In the interests of transparency, in the event that you are unable to provide us with the Airbnb and Expedia/Stayz data it would be appropriate to provide it to an independent organisation such as the Institute for the Study of Social Change for analysis.

Yours faithfully,

Meredith Barton
Principal Solicitor
Tenants' Union of Tasmania
