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I strongly believe in the right of people to share their houses and apartments across New South Wales in a responsible and respectful way, without extreme regulations like caps and costly registration processes. Please accept this as a formal submission to the Options Paper.

Why do I host with Airbnb?

The Airbnb host community depends on hosting as an economic lifeline to help us pay the mortgage and the bills. I also recommend my favourite cafes, restaurants and shops so small businesses get a boost from local tourism.

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David Dick

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Section 4: Industry Self Regulation - including industry complaints management and education which encourages responsible hosting and self regulation. Any Code of Conduct would need to be reasonable and representative of the home sharing community.

Section 5: Strata Regulation - This includes options for by-laws to manage visitor behaviour and to receive a revenue share from home sharing. I would also support rules to deal with bad actors and isolated incidents of unruly behaviour. I would not support a regulatory environment which allows Owners Corporations to ban outright short term rentals.

I wish to register my opposition to the following options:

Section 5: Strata Regulation - By-laws which could prohibit hosts from sharing their own homes would see strata residents treated as second class citizens. Current rules in NSW do not allow by-laws that ban hosts from sharing their own home, and any change to this would be a step backwards for NSW.

Section 6: Planning Framework - A planning framework including caps and restrictions would have a negative impact on home sharing. The planning frameworks in both South Australia and Tasmania don't include any caps on nights at all.

Section 7: Registration or Licensing - A registration or licensing system to share your own home would have a negative impact on home sharing. In South Australia there are no fees and no registration or licensing system, allowing the home sharing economy to thrive. In Tasmania, most home sharing requires no approvals. For others there is a simple, quick and cost effective self-assessment form, which is only required in limited circumstances - usually for holiday homes or weekenders only.

To maximise participation in the sharing economy, any regulations should be clear and easy to understand and comply with, and also cost effective for hosts.

I encourage the NSW Government to follow the lead of South Australia and Tasmania, as well as other cities around the world, which have embraced home sharing and are reaping the rewards.

Jill Miller

As a guest who has travelled to NSW using the Airbnb platform in the past 12 months, I strongly believe in the right of people to share their houses and apartments. I absolutely embrace my responsibilities as a guest to treat hosts' homes in a responsible and respectful way, and I know that Airbnb's review system keeps hosts and guests accountable for their travelling behaviours.

Extreme regulations, and red tape like caps and costly registration processes could severely affect my ability to travel using Airbnb and restrict my choices as a traveller. Please accept this as a formal submission to the Options Paper.

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Trish McBride

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