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MPs in England

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Dear colleague

Call for Evidence on short-term holiday letting in England

I am writing to draw your attention to the publication today of a [call for evidence on short-term and holiday letting in England](#), an issue which I know will be of great interest to many members of the House.

The commitment to consult on this issue was made in the Tourism Recovery Plan in June 2021. As a first step, the call for evidence published today will gather views and information on the benefits and challenges related to short term lets. This will help us determine whether there are options the government should pursue through a future consultation.

The guest accommodation sector has changed significantly over the last fifteen years. In particular, there has been a major expansion in the number and range of accommodation suppliers driven by the growth of online platforms. The sharing economy has brought many benefits to the tourism sector and wider economy, as well as creating an additional income stream for homeowners, and providing consumers with greater choice and flexibility.

However the government also recognises that the rise in short-term and holiday letting has prompted concerns. These include the impact on the housing market and local communities, particularly in tourism hotspots, and a sense that new entrants in the market are not being held to the same health and safety standards as traditional operators of guest accommodation such as hotels and bed and breakfasts.

Many other countries and cities have introduced measures in recent years to respond to some of these issues. As the tourism sector recovers from COVID-19, the government believes that now is the right time to assess the situation in England. I am also keen to consider alternatives to a registration scheme, including non-regulatory alternatives.

I am cognisant of commitments in the Levelling Up White Paper to explore proposals for introducing a National Landlord Register in England, and my Department will work closely with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities to ensure any measures form a cohesive package.



The government is keen to hear from all interested parties, including hosts, guest accommodation businesses, online peer-to-peer platforms, enforcement agencies and tourism bodies. I also intend to host a Parliamentary briefing and Q&A session on this matter. Further details will be circulated in due course. In the meantime I am happy to discuss this work with you if beneficial.



Nigel Huddleston MP
Minister for Sport, Tourism, Heritage and Civil Society