

Inquiry into the economic and regulatory frameworks for Queensland island resorts

Submission No: 43
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Submitter Comments:

I have lived as a long term renter on Keswick Island for almost 8 years. I have undertaken caretaking roles on St Bees Island and Brampton Island. In addition to this, I have sailed extensively through the Whitsunday Group. The island resorts, once the jewels of QLD's crown are in a dispicable state of disrepair and negligence. My own experience living on Keswick Island and as a potential buyer here has been littered with bullying and harrassment by the previous Island manager, all condoned by the head lease holders. When I have raised concerns with State Government and Local Government my concerns have been dismissed and not investigated. As a proud Anaiwan women from Northern NSW, I hold the level of engagement with Traditional Owners contemptable. There are social, cultural and economic values to be realised should the government place the responsibility of these developments with a more appropriate departmental portfolio. Ensure compliance with all documents forming the regulatory framework and issue penalties for infringements. I have thoroughly researched the framework for Keswick Island and do not need to further elaborate. I would appreciate being invited to present to the Committee should it arise.

Submitter Recommendations:

Consider the enforcement of forfeiture of leases for those who do not develop responsibly and ethically.