

27<sup>th</sup> July 2023

via [Simone.Pregellio@regionalaustralia.org.au](mailto:Simone.Pregellio@regionalaustralia.org.au)

Dear Simone,

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to RAI's submission in response to the [Senate Inquiry into the Worsening Rental Crisis in Australia](#) commissioned by the Standing Committee on Community Affairs.

To ensure our contribution represents the opinion of our community members, we devised and distributed a survey with questions related to the supply and / or lack of suitable rental properties, as well as a request for information on initiatives that have had a positive impact on the rental market across the region.

We would like to highlight that we had the greatest response within the shortest amount of time (146 responses in 48 hours), for all surveys previously distributed to RDASI community members. The topic certainly hit a chord with many people.

In summary:

*Residents from the RDASI region voiced their concerns over the inadequate supply and lack of suitable rental properties, with over 70% of survey respondents who had experienced challenges when applying for rental properties waiting more than 4 months, 10% waiting up to 2 years and over 11% waiting up to 3 years, to secure a property. Common thoughts regarding supply issues highlight an increase in stock being leased via the short-term rental market, and properties owned by foreign investors remaining empty. Large companies and projects attracting high numbers of out of region workers, and city dwellers relocating to the country are also considered to induce considerable strain on stock that was once available to residents.*

We hope the above statement from RDASI is of use to RAI's submission.

Kindest regards,

**Tash Maguire**

Research and Policy Officer

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