

**Short Term Rental Accommodation
Scheme Amendment Report**



SHIRE OF
WAROONA
SEA TO SCARP

**Shire of Waroona
Local Planning Scheme No. 7**

Amendment No. 44

Summary of Amendment Details

Update scheme text to introduce new and revised land use classes and general definitions to facilitate State Government reforms for short-term rental accommodation.

Planning and Development Act 2005
RESOLUTION TO ADOPT AMENDMENT
TO LOCAL PLANNING SCHEME

Shire of Waroona Local Planning Scheme No. 7
Amendment 44

Resolved that the Local Government pursuant to section 75 of the *Planning and Development Act 2005*, amend the above Local Planning Scheme by:

1. In Schedule 1 - Interpretations and Table 1 – Zoning Table:

A. Delete the definitions and references to:

- *bed and breakfast*;
- *chalet*;
- *farm stay accommodation*;
- *holiday house*;
- *motel*; and
- *tourist development*.

B. Insert the following definition into Schedule 1 - Interpretations:

tourist and visitor accommodation -

(a) means a building, or a group of buildings forming a complex, that —

- (i) is wholly managed by a single person or body; and
- (ii) is used to provide accommodation for guests, on a commercial basis, with no individual guest accommodated for a period or periods exceeding a total of 3 months in any 12-month period; and
- (iii) may include on-site services and facilities for use by guests; and
- (iv) in the case of a single building — contains more than 1 separate accommodation unit or is capable of accommodating more than 12 people per night;

and

(b) includes a building, or complex of buildings, meeting the criteria in paragraph (a) that is used for self-contained serviced apartments that are regularly serviced or cleaned during the period of a guest's stay by the owner or manager of the apartment or an agent of the owner or manager; but

(c) does not include any of the following —

- (i) an aged care facility as defined in the *Land Tax Assessment Act 2002* section 38A(1);
- (ii) a caravan park;
- (iii) hosted short-term rental accommodation;
- (iv) a lodging-house as defined in the *Health (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1911* section 3(1);
- (v) a park home park;

(vi) a retirement village as defined in the Retirement Villages Act 1992 section 3(1);

(vii) a road house;

(viii) workforce accommodation;

2. In Table 1 - Zoning Table' insert in alphabetical order the following land uses and permissibility:

- a) hosted short-term rental accommodation - designate as 'P' uses in zones where a dwelling is capable of approval and 'X' uses in all other zones.
- b) unhosted short-term rental accommodation – designate as:
 - 'A' uses in the Residential, Hamel and Preston Beach zones;
 - as 'D' uses in zones where a dwelling is permissible; and
 - 'X' uses in all other zones.
- c) tourist and visitor accommodation - designate as:
 - 'A' in Town Centre, Community & Civic, Preston Beach, Coastal Highway and Hills Landscape Protection zones;
 - 'D' in General Farming, Hills Face, Darling Ranges and Rural Small Holdings zones; and
 - 'X' in all other zones.

The amendment is **standard** under the provisions of Regulation 35(2) of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* as the amendment would not result in any significant environmental, social, economic or governance impacts on land in the scheme area.

Dated this 27th day of January 2025



(Chief Executive Officer)

Scheme Amendment Report

1. Introduction

The purpose of this amendment is to amend the Shire local planning scheme to implement the State Government's planning reforms for short-term rental accommodation.

This amendment is required to ensure alignment with new 'deemed' and 'model' land use classes and general definitions introduced into the state planning framework. Most significantly, it includes amendments to reflect the 'deemed' land use classes for 'hosted short-term rental accommodation' and 'unhosted short-term rental accommodation', along with removal of superseded land uses. The following report provides further detail and background information on these changes, including specific implications for the Shire.

2. Background

Short-Term Rental Accommodation (STRA) refers to the practice of renting out a property (or part of a property) for a relatively short period of time, usually on a nightly or weekly basis. This type of accommodation is usually booked through online platforms and is popular among travellers and visitors seeking temporary lodging for holidays, business trips or other short stays. The State Government has committed to various initiatives to deliver better regulation of the short-term rental accommodation sector.

In November 2023, the Western Australian Planning Commission released its *Position Statement: Planning for Tourism and Short-Term Rental Accommodation* (Position Statement) and associated Guidelines. The release of the Position Statement complemented other whole-of-government reforms relating to STRA, responding to recommendations made in the 2019 parliamentary enquiry *Levelling the Playing Field: Managing the impact of the rapid increase of short-term rentals in Western Australia*. This included development of a state-wide registration scheme for STRA, as well as an incentive scheme to encourage transition of properties from the short to long term rental market.

Alongside the registration scheme, which sits separately to the planning system and is mandatory for all STRA, amendments to planning regulations were flagged as a key part of the State Government's goal to ensure a fairer and more consistent treatment of STRA from both a legal and practical standpoint. The planning changes, which have triggered the need for the City/Town/Shire to amend its scheme, aim to provide greater consistency across the state in relation to what approvals are needed for STRA proposals as well as how these uses are defined in local planning schemes.

3. State Planning Framework

The State Government's planning reforms for short-term rental accommodation are being implemented predominantly through the *Planning & Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* (LPS Regulations), which in turn have been informed by policy direction provided through the Position Statement.

Position Statement

The Position Statement foreshadowed a series of amendments to the LPS Regulations with the overall aim of providing more certainty and consistency across jurisdictions in respect to the treatment of STRA. Key changes flagged in this document included dedicated land use classes for STRA to ensure a clear delineation between this use and traditional accommodation types, as well as a state-wide exemption for hosted STRA and a 90-night exemption for unhosted STRA within the

Perth Metropolitan Area. The Position Statement also includes guidance on strategic and statutory planning matters for both tourism and STRA, as well as local planning policy development.

LPS Regulations

The LPS Regulations are a key component of Western Australia's planning system comprising of three major parts:

- Regulations proper, which set out the process for preparing or amending a local planning scheme;
- 'Model' provisions, set out in Schedule 1, which are to be used by local governments in preparing or amending a local planning scheme; and
- 'Deemed' provisions, set out in Schedule 2, read automatically into all local planning schemes, and override any existing scheme provision to the extent of any inconsistencies. Where there is a conflict between these provisions and the scheme, the deemed provisions prevail.

Amendments to both Schedules 1 and 2 of these regulations have been made to facilitate the necessary planning changes of the State Government's short-term rental accommodation (STRA) reform initiatives, as envisaged by the Position Statement. These changes, most notably, include:

- i. new 'deemed' land use classes of 'hosted short-term rental accommodation' and 'unhosted short-term rental accommodation' to ensure these accommodation types are classified as dedicated land use classes in planning schemes;
- ii. new 'deemed' general terms to define 'short-term rental accommodation' and link to the overarching *Short-Term Rental Accommodation Act 2024*, which provides the legal framework for the STRA Register;
- iii. a new 'model' land use class of 'tourist and visitor accommodation' to differentiate these use types from STRA, and consolidate a number of existing land use terms for tourist and visitor accommodation (aside from 'hotel'), as well as other changes to general definitions;
- iv. a state-wide development approval exemption for 'hosted short-term rental accommodation' (this includes ancillary dwellings); and
- v. a 90-night (cumulative) exemption within a 12-month period for 'unhosted' short-term rental accommodation in the Perth metropolitan area.

The implications for these changes to the Shire are detailed further in the following sections of this report.

4. Local Planning Context

5. Proposed Amendment

With the introduction of the new deemed land use classes into planning schemes associated with short-term rental accommodation, this scheme amendment relates to the introduction, modification and deletion of various land use and general definitions to the City/Town/Shire's planning scheme. The new exemptions are also 'deemed' and as such are already operative, however this amendment does include changes to the zoning table to reflect the hosted STRA exemption as a permitted use.

Deemed Short-Term Rental Accommodation Land Use Classes

Whilst the new 'deemed' land use classes are automatically read into the Shire's scheme through the LPS Regulations, along with the previously mentioned exemptions, these uses are being incorporated into scheme zoning tables to ensure absolute clarity from an interpretation perspective, particularly given these uses replace long-standing 'model' land use classes within the Shire's planning framework.

To implement the required changes, this amendment requires deletion of all references to the land use classes of *bed and breakfast* and *holiday house*, replaced with the new 'deemed' definitions of *hosted short-term rental accommodation* and *unhosted short-term rental accommodation*. This includes amending the Zoning Table and Definitions schedules of the scheme text accordingly.

In addition to the LPS Regulations, the Position Statement and Planning Bulletin 115 provide further direction for how STRA should be dealt with in local planning schemes from a permissibility standpoint. To reflect these requirements, this amendment proposes the following designations for these new land use classes:

- 'Hosted short-term rental accommodation' is proposed as a Permitted use in all zones where any type of 'dwelling' is capable of approval, to reflect the state-wide exemption in the 'deemed provisions';
- 'Unhosted short-term rental accommodation' is proposed to be designated as 'D' uses in zones where a dwelling is permissible and 'X' in all other zones.

Aside from the above, where the uses of holiday house and bed and breakfast are referenced in other sections of the scheme text, these are to be cross-referenced accordingly.

Model 'Tourist and Visitor Accommodation' Land Use

A new model land use class of 'Tourist and Visitor Accommodation' has been introduced to supersede various traditional accommodation land use types (excluding 'hotel') and provide a clearer delineation between these uses and 'short-term rental accommodation'. In the context of the Shire's scheme, uses to be deleted through this change include:

- *Motel – directly replaced by the new use class;*
- *Tourist development – directly replaced by the new use class;*
- *Holiday House - directly replaced by the new use class;*
- *Farm Stay Accommodation - directly replaced by the new use class;*
- *Chalet - directly replaced by the new use class; and*
- *Bed and Breakfast - directly replaced by the new use class.*

New and Revised Land Use & General Definitions

As part of the LPS Regulations changes, amendments to some other model definitions were also introduced so as to not cause confusion or conflict with the new short-term rental accommodation land use terms. These include deletion of the definition for 'short-term accommodation', which has been removed to avoid confusion with new terms relating to 'short-term rental accommodation'. This has consequentially resulted in modifications to the general model terms of 'cabin' and 'chalet', as well as the land use term for 'road house'. The new model terms are proposed to be introduced into the scheme text through this amendment.

Through deletion of the general term 'short term accommodation' it is proposed to insert into the scheme text the deleted model definition in-full wherever referenced, to replicate the changes made in the model provisions; this being:

accommodation for guests, on a commercial basis, either continuously or from time to time, with no guest accommodated for periods totalling more than 3 months in any 12-month period.

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The amendment is **standard** under the provisions of Regulation 35(2) of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* as the amendment would not result in any significant environmental, social, economic or governance impacts on land in the scheme area.

COUNCIL ADOPTION

This Standard Amendment was adopted by resolution of the Council of the Shire of Waroona at the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on the 25th day of November, 2025.



.....
MAYOR/SHIRE PRESIDENT

.....
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

This Amendment is recommended for support by resolution of the Shire of Waroona at the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on the 25th day of November, 2025 and the Common Seal of the Shire of Waroona was hereunto affixed by the authority of a resolution of the Council in the presence of:

.....
MAYOR/SHIRE PRESIDENT

.....
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

WAPC ENDORSEMENT (r.63)

.....
DELEGATED UNDER S.16 OF
THE P&D ACT 2005

DATE.....
FORM 6A - CONTINUED

APPROVAL GRANTED

.....
MINISTER FOR PLANNING

DATE.....