

Media Release

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Attention Chief of Staff / Property Editor

NEW REGULATIONS SHUT DOWN GOLD COAST HIGH RISE “PARTY HOUSES”

ALL QUEENSLAND LOCAL AUTHORITIES ENCOURAGED TO ADOPT LAWS

Local authorities in Queensland, are being urged to follow the lead of Gold Coast City Council and introduce new regulations to shut down so called “party houses.”

Gold Coast has taken action to curb the incidences of “party houses” and the associated overcrowding, drug use, alcohol abuse, late night noise and frequent violence that have been widely reported.

The peak organisation for Strata title and Community Title Management in Queensland, says the introduction of these regulations will go a long way to safeguarding the Gold Coast from issues like property damage, overcrowding, insurance voiding and related instances of crime.

“This action by the Gold Coast City Council should be commended. This has been a long term problem and we’re happy residents will be better protected against damage to their properties and families on holidays can enjoy their stay at the Coast.” Strata Community Australia (Qld) President, Simon Barnard said today.

As a popular region for party goers, managers, owners and residents of the Gold Coast strata communities have long witnessed the mounting risks posed by “party houses” in apartment buildings. The Byron Bay Council first implemented regulations around nuisance, with the Gold Coast now following.

Per the Gold Coast City Council’s new regulations, “party houses” are defined as any properties or dwellings that are regularly used by short-term letting guests for parties, including, for example, raves, bucks nights, hens nights, wedding receptions or similar parties. (Editor Note – See attached article)

“Obviously this is crucial protective measure for the strata sector in areas where tourist centric, short-term letting thrives but we see application for this type of regulation throughout Queensland.”

Mr Barnard says that while this doesn't extend itself to "Schoolies" apartments it should serve as the perfect example for all regions to consider.

"With development approvals for apartments now exceeding houses, it's clear high density living is the future of Queensland and Australian cities and it's really important local authorities recognise the scale on which this type of legislation would help."

"Nationally, the strata sector is now worth \$1.2 trillion and Queensland, behind remarkable apartment growth is leading the charge."

"The sheer amount of Queenslanders who are impacted by strata issues is growing by the thousand, without an end in sight, so we hope to see councils providing some protection for their homes, lifestyles and investments."

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