# Richard Toomer <br> Tourism Alliance <br> Executive Director 

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## Some issues and updates

- Statutory registration of short terms lets
- Package Travel Regulations
- ETAs, Visas, and borders
- Taxing Tourists report
- Tourism and the general election...?


## Statutory registration of short-term lets

- Consultation closed on $7^{\text {th }}$ June
- Expect response soon...?
- Possible further consultation...?
- Significant loopholes and questions remain to be answered


## Package Travel Regulations

- Consultation closed
- Government considering changes and open to reform
- Domestic packages should only count if travel is included


## Package Travel Regulations

- Currently 2 of 4 elements make a package
- "Carriage of passengers" (including flights, trains and coaches)
- "Accommodation"
- "Motor vehicle hire" and
- "Any other tourist service"
- One simple but important change suggested.
- A domestic package should include either 'carriage of passengers' or 'motor vehicle hire' plus one of the others
- This would free up tourism businesses and DMOs to offer innovative packages in their area with no discernable impact on consumers
- Full paper available on our website via the Publications tab


## DMO survey on PTRs

- 85\% strongly agree with our policy proposal. A total of $90 \%$ agree.
- $\mathbf{9 0 \%}$ say the current rules are hampering the ability of businesses in their area to offer value-added products to consumers. $45 \%$ said it was hampering it a great deal.
- 90\% say our proposal would benefit their DMO in being able to market products and services in their area. $55 \%$ say it would benefit them a great deal.


## ETAs, visas, borders

- ETA needs tweaking
- Languages
- Welcome
- Transit
- Northern Ireland
- EU EES/ETIAS coming
- EES from late 2024 - October?
- ETIAS from spring 2025


## Taxing Tourists report

- Tourism Alliance research
- Have to compare destinations like-with-like
- 20\% VAT rate is key
- We already tax tourists very highly
- But get ready for the debate


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