



MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 3 February 2020

**TAA WORKING CLOSELY WITH GOVERNMENT ON CHINA TRAVEL
BAN RESPONSE**

Tourism Accommodation Australia is in constant communication with the Federal Government on all aspects of the Chinese tourism travel ban, with national CEO Michael Johnson again warning the local industry is set for a tough 2020.

Mr Johnson said the travel ban imposed by the Government on the weekend in an effort to stop the spread of the coronavirus would have a huge impact – especially on the back of the bushfire disaster.

“The updated position by the Federal Government has been based on expert advice but there’s no doubt the travel ban will have a substantial impact on our tourism sector for months to come,” he said.

“It is critical TAA and the wider accommodation sector continues to work closely with the Federal Tourism and Health Ministers and relay information directly to the industry as soon as it becomes available.

“We will also be pushing for assistance for our sector during what is going to be a very tough year with both domestic and international markets in disarray.”

Mr Johnson repeated his comments from last week that the industry was “resilient” and “we will work through this together.”

“We have been working with Tourism Australia and Government on tourism recovery programs for hard hit regional areas including “Holiday Here This Year”,” he said.

“We also need to remember Australia has other important tourism markets in addition to China, including the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Japan and the United States which we can target.

“We will work together to recover from this set-back.”

Media Contact: Jason Bartlett 0433 95 46 57