



Hon Dr Tony Buti MLA
Attorney General; Minister for Commerce;
Tertiary and International Education; Multicultural Interests

Our Ref: 80-22630

Mr Dean Long
Chief Executive Officer
Australian Travel Industry Association

Via email: Ingrid.fraser@atia.travel

Dear Mr Long

AUSTRALIAN TRAVEL INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION – INSOLVENCY PROTECTION

I was recently briefed on protections that apply for consumers impacted by the insolvency of a travel agent. My interest in this matter arose from media reports about Australian Travel Deals Pty Ltd, trading as 'traveldream.com.au (Traveldream), which has been placed in administration. I acknowledge that Traveldream was not an Australian Travel Industry Association (ATIA) accredited member.

I am advised that ATIA launched Project A30 at the Beyond Borders Travel Summit in October 2024, which includes an initiative to review and evaluate supplier and agency protection measures, including insolvency protections, for consideration by members in 2025.

I am encouraged by this initiative and urge ATIA to continue exploring ways to provide greater protections for consumers (particularly against travel agent insolvency) to help bridge the gap created by the dissolution of the national Travel Compensation Fund in 2014. As you would be aware, many Western Australians travel and some draw on a lifetime of savings. All consumers deserve to have confidence when paying for their travel that there is a safety net against trader insolvency through industry led protections.

I will continue to monitor this issue with interest and wish you all the best in progressing this initiative at the 2025 Summit.

Yours sincerely

Dr Tony Buti MLA
MINISTER FOR COMMERCE

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