# Media Release

**The Hon Jaala Pulford MLC** Minister for Employment Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy Minister for Small Business Minister for Resources



Friday, 27 May 2022

# MELTON SET TO GAIN IMPROVED MOBILE CONNECTIVITY

Residents and businesses in Melton and surrounding suburbs will have better mobile coverage as the Andrews Labor Government invests in upgrades and new towers through the Connecting Victoria program.

Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy Jaala Pulford today announced the Labor Government is partnering with Optus and TPG Telecom to build new and upgrade existing towers.

The new and upgraded infrastructure will provide coverage of over 150 square kilometres across Brookfield, Cobblebank, Aintree, Weir Views, Exford, Melton South and Toolern Vale.

More than 27,500 Victorians living and working in these areas will have improved mobile connectivity as new infrastructure is installed between 2024 and 2026.

Through Connecting Victoria, the Government is investing \$300 million to better mobile coverage at about 1,000 sites across the state.

This investment in new infrastructure will deliver better mobile services where they are needed most, helping businesses grow and create local jobs.

The Government's \$550 million Connecting Victoria program is fast-tracking improvements to mobile coverage and broadband access across the state.

More Connecting Victoria projects in locations across the state will be announced throughout 2022. To keep up to date, visit <u>vic.gov.au/connectingvictoria</u>.

## Quotes attributable to Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy Jaala Pulford

"High-growth areas like Melton need mobile services with more capacity as the population grows, that's why we're improving mobile connectivity in the area."

"Better mobile coverage gives people vital links to their families, community, emergency services, education and work."

# Quote attributable to Member for Melton Steve McGhie

"Investments like these are critical to keeping more people in the community connected when it matters most."

## Quote attributable to TPG Telecom General Manager of Technology Strategy & Innovation Yago Lopez

"TPG Telecom is proud to co-invest with the Victorian Government on these important upgrades to communications infrastructure."

## Quote attributable to Optus Vice President of Regulatory and Public Affairs Andrew Sheridan

"Optus wishes to thank the Victorian Government for their significant investment which will go a long way in strengthening the mobile infrastructure in Melton."