

Thursday, 30 June 2022

## BETTER MOBILE CONNECTIVITY FOR MELBOURNE'S SOUTH-EAST

The Andrews Labor Government is improving mobile connectivity in Melbourne's outer south-east, with new mobile towers and infrastructure upgrades.

Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy Jaala Pulford today announced partnerships with Optus and TPG Telecom to deliver four new mobile towers and upgrade 11 towers from 4G to 5G through the Labor Government's *Connecting Victoria* program.

The work will be carried out between 2023 and 2024 to deliver improved services across 418 square kilometres in Melbourne's outer south-east, including the Mornington Peninsula, benefiting more than 119,000 households.

Residents and businesses in Beaconsfield, Berwick, Botanic Ridge, Cardinia, Clyde, Clyde North, Cranbourne, Cranbourne East, Cranbourne North, Cranbourne West, Dandenong South, Endeavour Hills, Eumemmerring, Hallam, Hampton Park, Mornington, Mount Martha, Officer, Officer South and Skye can look forward to improved coverage.

Earlier this year the Labor Government released its Connecting Victoria engagement report, voicing the needs of more than 11,000 Victorians for better mobile and broadband connections.

Key feedback from the report highlighted that improved mobile connectivity is essential in areas where services need to keep up with rapid development and growth, particularly during peak tourism seasons.

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

More projects in locations across the state will be announced throughout 2022. To keep up to date, visit [vic.gov.au/connectingvictoria](https://vic.gov.au/connectingvictoria).

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

*"Outer Melbourne suburbs like Cranbourne and tourism hotspots like the Mornington Peninsula need mobile services that can keep up with increasing demand and keep Victorians connected."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Cranbourne Pauline Richards**

*"Better connectivity creates enormous opportunities for jobs and supports growth in our important industries, and we're ensuring Melbourne's outer suburbs and the Peninsula have a thriving digital economy."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Bass Jordan Crugnale**

*"Mobile connectivity is a modern day expectation and this is welcomed news for our residents and businesses in the South East including Clyde and Clyde North."*

### **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 Melbourne's south-east."*

### **Quote attributable to TPG Telecom Head of Infrastructure Strategy & Integrated Planning Paul Tremlett**

*"We are pleased to work with the Victorian Government on these important network sharing arrangements as it means more people and businesses can access the social and economic benefits that are made possible by mobile connectivity."*

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