

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



Thursday, 21 July 2022

BOOST FOR GEELONG WITH IMPROVED MOBILE CONNECTIVITY

The Andrews Labor Government is improving mobile connectivity in Geelong with a new mobile tower and upgrades to existing infrastructure.

Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy Jaala Pulford today announced partnerships with Optus and TPG Telecom to build a new mobile tower and upgrade 10 towers to 5G through the Connecting Victoria program.

The work will be carried out between 2023 and 2026 and will deliver improved services across 124 square kilometres in Geelong and benefit more than 61,000 homes and businesses.

Coverage will be improved for residents, businesses and visitors in Bell Park, Bell Post Hill, Belmont, Breakwater, Drumcondra, East Geelong, Geelong, Geelong West, Hamlyn Heights, Herne Hill, Manifold Heights, Marshall, Newtown, Norlane, North Geelong, North Shore, Rippleside, South Geelong, St Albans Park and Thomson.

Optus and TPG Telecom will share infrastructure at some of these sites, giving locals a choice of mobile provider and improving competition.

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.

The report highlights that improved mobile services are needed in Geelong to keep up with population growth, with improved coverage to provide a boost for tourism and the local economy.

The Government's Connecting Victoria program is fast-tracking improvements to mobile coverage and broadband access across the state. More projects in locations will be announced throughout 2022. To keep up to date, visit vic.gov.au/connectingvictoria.

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

"Mobile and broadband services play a vital role in driving economic growth and jobs, and we want everyone to have access to reliable service when they need it most."

Quote attributable to Member for Geelong Christine Couzens

"Our investment will deliver better mobile services for thousands of families and businesses, now and in the future, and will help Geelong to scale up to meet increasing tourism demand."

Quote attributable to Member for Lara John Eren

"Exciting changes and innovative projects are happening in Geelong, and need good-quality connectivity to support them. This investment will help more Geelong businesses to succeed and communities to thrive."

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