# Media Release

The Hon Gabrielle Williams MP
Minister for Government Services
Minister for Consumer Affairs
Minister for Public and Active Transport



Thursday, 5 December 2024

# BETTER MOBILE COVERAGE FOR CLYDE AND CLYDE NORTH

The Allan Labor Government is improving connectivity for residents and businesses in Clyde and Clyde North with new mobile towers and fibre technology.

Minister for Government Services Gabrielle Williams is in Clyde North today to announce the completion of a new mobile tower which improves TPG and Optus coverage for 8,000 premises – delivering 18 km2 of upgraded outdoor 4G and 5G coverage.

The Labor Government has also supported the construction of two new Telstra mobile towers, located on Ramlegh Reserve in Clyde and Berwick Springs Reserve in Narre Warren South, that began transmitting in July. The towers provide around 7.6 km2 of combined new outdoor 4G and 5G mobile coverage across more than 6,700 premises.

The improved mobile coverage is helping businesses like Alana Taylor Photography. Alana previously took enquiries and bookings via email only because the mobile coverage was too unreliable, but now she is able to communicate faster and easier with her clients and take bookings over the phone.

Around 153 eligible premises in Clyde now have access to high-capacity fibre technology thanks to the Labor Government's Connecting Victoria program, which has also funded nine mobile projects in Clyde and Clyde North with Telstra, Optus and TPG.

The Labor Government is delivering more than 1,200 mobile projects and 150 broadband projects across the state through Connecting Victoria.

While the Commonwealth is responsible for telecommunications services in Australia, the Labor Government continures to invest in mobile, broadband and wi-fi infrastructure to address regional connectivity gaps.

Find out more about Connecting Victoria at vic.gov.au/connecting-victoria.

#### **Quote attributable to Minister for Government Services Gabrielle Williams**

"We know the communities of Clyde and Clyde North have struggled with poor coverage in the area for some time – by supporting these new towers we are providing residents and businesses with better connectivity."

#### Quote attributable to Member for South-Eastern Metropolitan Michael Galea

"I know firsthand how frustrating the lack of mobile reception in Clyde North is. That's why I'm so pleased the Allan Labor Government has stepped in to deliver these much-needed new towers after a decade of neglect from the former Liberal National Federal Government."

#### Quote attributable to Telstra Regional General Manager for Eastern Victoria Jenny Gray

"This is a great example of what carriers like Telstra and the Victorian Government can achieve by working together to bring new connectivity to regional locations. We congratulate the Victorian Government for taking this initiative."

Quote attributable to TPG Telecom General Manager Wireless Access Networks David Yeo

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"TPG Telecom is proud to be part of the Connecting Victoria program, helping to boost mobile connectivity for homes and businesses across the state. Initiatives like these are a big step forward in making sure our communities have reliable and high-quality mobile coverage to support their work, school and entertainment needs."

## Quote attributable to Optus Local General Manager Victoria Jayson Grool

"Optus is delighted to play a key role in the Connecting Victoria program, unlocking greater opportunities for Victorians and enhancing connectivity for communities across the state. We're committed to delivering reliable, high-quality network coverage that empowers Australians to thrive in every aspect of their daily lives."

### **Quotes attributable to photographer Alana Taylor**

"Where I run my photoshoots from my home studio in Clyde, the poor mobile coverage has been a significant challenge."

"Until now I've taken enquiries and bookings via email only because the mobile coverage has been too unreliable to do it by phone, but for my clients – many of whom are new parents who need quick and easy communication – that hasn't been ideal."

"Better mobile coverage will not only streamline how I run my business and improve client satisfaction, it'll also make life easier for everyone in this community."

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