

MEDIA STATEMENT



Libby Mettam MLA

Member for Vasse

20 February 2015

Regional Mobile Phone Towers for Gracetown and Wilyabrup

Mobile phone and internet coverage will continue to improve in the region following State Government funding for two new mobile phone towers, as part of a \$45 million investment.

Libby Mettam MLA Member for Vasse said

“Gracetown had been identified as a priority and would be one of the first sites to receive an RTP mobile phone tower, expected to be installed in June 2015, with the interim arrangement of a satellite tower at Gracetown General Store.

“In addition Wilyabrup will receive a tower and is planned to be installed mid-2016. This upgrade will also result in improved coverage in Yallingup East.”

Commerce Minister Michael Mischin & Regional Development Minister Terry Redman were in Gracetown today to announce the State Government \$45million Regional Telecommunications Program through Royalties for Regions and in partnership with Telstra. Minister Mischin said it would provide greater connectivity for regional communities and improve safety and emergency service capabilities.

“This is an issue that I raised during the last election campaign as I believe good mobile coverage is crucial to doing business better and addressing emergency situations”, said Libby.

“It is for this reason that on my election I immediately made representations to the Premier and the Minister for Commerce and then had discussions with Telstra on this issue.

“Gracetown and Wilyabrup are also home to residential populations which increasingly rely on mobile phones, as a necessity of modern life.

“First and foremost the new mobile phone tower will bring a high level of safety and security for people in this area. As I informed the Minister, during the past 18 years Gracetown has endured more than its fair-share of traumatic events,” commented Libby.

The RTP will provide 85 mobile phone towers across regional WA for the next four years to reduce gaps in mobile telephone and data coverage, particularly in small communities and at strategic locations in regional WA.

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