
To: Project Control Group and Key Contacts

Date: 11 August 2010

Main topic: Central Highlands ICT Study

Local Government actions

Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Government NBN forum – register now!

- Forum for local government representatives and other stakeholders. Due to the calling of the federal election the content of this event will depend on the outcome of the election, however representatives from the State Government and the Australian Telecommunications User Group will be attending:

What: Forum for LGA representatives

When: Wednesday 8 September 2010

Time: 9.00am – 12.00pm

Place: Banksia Room, Grains Innovation Park, 110 Natimuk Road, Horsham

RSVP: Register by going to www.cecc.com.au/wsm_nbn_forum

Horsham broadband community information session

- Invite and encourage residents and businesses in your LGA to attend the broadband community information session in Horsham on 3 August 2010. The information session will include a Q&A session and presentations from the State Government, Australian Telecommunications User Group and a local business.

What: Information session for local businesses and residents

When: Tuesday 7 September 2010

Time: 6.30pm – 8.00pm

Place: Yellow Gum Room, Grains Innovation Park, 110 Natimuk Road, Horsham

RSVP: Register by going to www.cecc.com.au/broadband_information_session

Useful information

Ballarat ICT Breakfast and Forum – Use-Inspired ICT and the National Broadband Network

- A representative from your LGA may be interested attending the Ballarat ICT breakfast and post breakfast National Broadband Network forum on 17 August 2010 with guest speaker Dr Ian Oppermann, Director, CSIRO ICT Centre. The event will bring together ICT professionals, University of Ballarat researchers and other associates from Ballarat and the broader region. For more information visit www.ubtp.com.au/resources/BreakfastInvAugust2010.pdf

What: Breakfast (\$20.00 per person)

When: Tuesday 17 August 2010

Time: 7.30am for 7.45am

Place: Neighbourhood Cable Conference Centre, Greenhill Enterprise Centre, University of Ballarat Technology Park

RSVP: Email g.daffy@ballarat.edu.au by 13 August 2010

What: National Broadband Network Forum (no cost)

When: Tuesday 17 August 2010

Time: 9.15am to 10.30am

Place: Neighbourhood Cable Conference Centre, Greenhill Enterprise Centre, University of Ballarat Technology Park

RSVP: Email g.daffy@ballarat.edu.au by 13 August 2010

NBN coverage

- NBN Co has released a map presenting an indicative representative of the fibre and wireless coverage of the NBN, along with an indicative list of towns which will receive some optical fibre and next generation wireless coverage (www.alp.org.au/agenda/nbn/). The ICT project team has also mapped this data which is available here: www.cecc.com.au/nbn.php

Project team activities

Project website

- The boundaries of the Bacchus Marsh second release NBN site and Moorabool Shire have been mapped and can be accessed at www.cecc.com.au/cb_pages/nbn_second_release_site_bacchus_marsh.php

ICT survey

- The ICT Survey was closed for reporting purposes on Friday 30 July 2010, however it continues to record responses.

- Survey responses for the Central Highlands region as at 11 August 2010 are 435:

LGA	Online responses	Hard-copy responses
Ararat Rural City	73	0
Central Goldfields Shire	6	0
City of Ballarat	12	1
Golden Plains Shire	11	0
Hepburn Shire	35	0
Moorabool Shire	238	2
Northern Grampians Shire	2	0
Pyrenees Shire	54	1
<i>Total</i>	<i>431</i>	<i>4</i>

**Please note: the survey responses from the Moorabool Shire were taken from the Moorabool Community Broadband and Telecommunications Strategy ICT survey responses*

- Combined survey responses for the Central Highlands and Wimmera Southern Mallee regions as at 11 August 2010 are 720
- Example of survey responses from the Central Highlands and Wimmera Southern Mallee regions as at 11 August 2010 (excluding Moorabool Shire responses)

- o *Quality of mobile phone coverage*

Excellent	3.26%
Very good	11.20%
Good	20.98%
Fair	26.48%
Poor	35.85%
Unsure	1.83%
No answer	0.41%

- o *Current internet services*

	Speed	Reliability	Cost
Excellent	6.11%	8.96%	4.07%
Very good	18.74%	29.53%	13.65%
Average	40.53%	36.86%	39.10%
Poor	18.94%	13.85%	21.79%
Very poor	11.20%	4.48%	12.02%
No answer	2.24%	4.07%	7.13%
Non completed or not displayed	2.24%	2.24%	2.24%

- *The most important issues about the internet*

	<i>Better and faster</i>	<i>Reducing the cost of access</i>
Strongly agree	73.52%	67.82%
Agree	17.72%	18.74%
Neither agree nor disagree	3.87%	8.15%
Disagree	0.41%	1.02%
Strongly disagree	1.02%	0.61%
No answer	3.46%	3.67%
- *Would you use the internet more...*

If it was faster	76.58%
If it was cheaper	64.36%
If digital television and telephone were integrated	23.22%
If I knew more about how to use things	13.65%
I wouldn't. It's fine as it is now	9.57%

Case studies

- Online case study template launched. See www.cecc.com.au/ict_case_study
- Word version of the case study template launched. See www.cecc.com.au/ch_ict_study
- Telephone interviews conducted:
 - Bannockburn Chamber of Commerce – 27 July
 - Bannockburn Primary School – 19 July
 - Central Highlands Agribusiness Forum – 26 July
 - Dulkeith Computer Services – 9 August
 - Ramirez Farming – 20 July
 - Creswick Post Office – 27 July
 - Virtually Yours – 21 July
 - Cave Hill Creek – 21 July
 - Montemedia – 2 August

Stakeholder consultation

- Met with Senator Stephen Conroy in Ballarat – 10 August 2010

Communications

- Article in the Ararat Advertiser – 10 August 2010
- Article in the Ballarat Courier – 31 July 2010
- David Ryan, Grampians Rural Health Alliance (GRHA) was featured in a 7.30 Report story 'Broadband network hangs in the balance' – 27 July 2010

Event participation

- Presenting at the Central Highlands Mayors and CEOs meeting – 20 August 2010
- Presenting at the Horsham broadband community information session – rescheduled to 7 September 2010 due to the calling of the federal election
- Presenting at the Wimmera Southern Mallee Local Government NBN forum – rescheduled to 8 September 2010 due to the calling of the federal election

Contract

- Awaiting formal contract documentation – last update provided by Justine Linley 14 July 2010

In progress

- Mapping telecommunications infrastructure
- Mapping ICT survey responses
- Analysing ICT survey results
- Writing up case studies
- Conducting desktop research
- Documenting study findings

Next update

- The next fortnightly update is scheduled for distribution on 23 August 2010

Further information

- Contact Helen Thompson via email h.thompson@ballarat.edu.au or telephone 5327 9418