



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **Communications Minister to hear needs of region at Tamworth forum**

The Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, Senator the Hon Stephen Conroy will attend a forum in Tamworth on Monday September 21 to hear the needs of people in the New England Electorate.

The forum is being organised by the Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor and will provide community leaders with an opportunity of expressing the communication needs of both large and small centres.

Mr Windsor is very pleased that the Minister is making his time available to come to Tamworth for the forum.

“Access to telecommunication services is paramount to the development of country Australia whether you live in a large or small centre.

Telecommunication services are the railways of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century that will assist greatly in reducing the disadvantages of distance, smallness and remoteness just as the railways did back in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

The forum will give community leaders and local service providers with the opportunity to express their needs directly to the Minister such that they can be taken into consideration for future policy direction and on-the-ground implementation.

I am very grateful that Minister Conroy is coming to the New England Electorate to attend the forum.

I look forward to the input of people attending so the Minister gets a broad and factual picture of the telecommunication services of the region,” Mr Windsor said.

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***For further information contact Tony Windsor, Ph (02) 6761 3080 or 0427 66 8868***