

Media Release

Andrew Broad

Member for Mallee

Thursday 12 October 2017

TOUR TALK ACROSS THE WIMMERA MALLEE

After three days of touring across the Wimmera Mallee, Federal Member for Mallee Andrew Broad has returned to his Mildura office with fresh take on the biggest issues concerning locals across the electorate of Mallee.

Mr Broad says as per usual roads and telecommunications were some of the most frequently raised topics.

“I always say the people of the Wimmera Mallee and Mildura areas need to be able to drive on a safe road and make phone call, and the reality is that there are still so many locals travelling every day to work on rough roads and people unable to get decent phone signal and internet coverage on their properties,” he said.

“We are working to improve road safety, particularly on our main highways where our heavy freight and harvest trucks operate – but there is plenty more to be done.”

“In terms of telecommunications, what we found on the road was that internet and mobile issues are very tailored to the individual. While many people in most of our small towns were finding it okay those just 5 kilometres out of town were going in and out and a little bit further out one house could connect okay but just down the road another home couldn't.”

“It's really been a matter of assessing all the options for an individual and weighing up what the best choice is for them, whether that might be with nbn waiting for Fibre to the Node to be built in a number of months, or they might find

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that they could be covered better by a different service all together, it's different for everyone based on their needs too.”

Other topics raised with Mr Broad included the regional health professional's workforce shortage across the regions, the new media reforms, and routes for community groups to apply for community project funding schemes.

As he prepares for the upcoming sitting week Mr Broad said it's great to gain vital feedback from the community to take to Ministers.

“Overall I had a great three days out on the road and want to thank those that attended open offices and shared their feedback and issues, these types of events are a direct line to the parliament and to getting things done and certainly plenty of locals took advantage of that.”

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