

## THE HON PAUL FLETCHER MP

Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## NBN upgrades to start for more than 100,000 premises

More than 100,000 premises across Australia are set to have access to faster internet as NBN Co puts its \$4.5 billion new investment package into action.

Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP, said that NBN Co has now commenced work with its construction delivery partners to design and construct local fibre networks passing around 100,000 premises in areas currently serviced by Fibre to the Node (FTTN) technology.

"This initial footprint has been designed by NBN Co to focus on areas where the company anticipates strong demand from households and businesses, and where NBN Co has established construction and delivery partners that are well resourced and ready to work," Minister Fletcher said.

"It is cost effective to start work now in these areas, and in this way we can spread and multiply economic activity across the nation by creating jobs and enabling more Australians to realise the benefits of even faster internet."

The initial footprint will cover parts of the following towns and suburbs:

- Belmont North, Charlestown, Toronto, Carramar, Castle Hill, Holsworthy, Liverpool, and Wetherill Park in New South Wales
- Lyndhurst and Narre Warren in Victoria
- Acacia Ridge, Browns Plains, Eight Mile and Oxenford in Queensland
- Osborne in South Australia
- Cannington and Double View in Western Australia.

"By taking fibre deeper into these towns and suburbs, households and businesses will be able to access NBN Co's fastest internet plans of up to 1 gigabit per second, with the fibre lead-ins connecting premises to the new local fibre networks built to the premises only when a customer orders an eligible service," Minister Fletcher said.

"The initial footprint represents only 5 per cent of the FTTN upgrade program, and NBN Co will continue to design and deploy new local fibre networks to pass 2 million premises over the next three years."

NBN Co will consult with internet retailers before finalising the design for its extended fibre network and is planning to make further announcements in early 2021 about its future rollout plans.

## **Media contact:**