



**Australian Government**

**Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie**  
Minister for Regional Communications

**Ken O'Dowd MP**  
Federal Member for Flynn

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## **Joint Media Release**

### **Coalition delivers new mobile coverage to Avondale**

13<sup>th</sup> November 2018

The residents of Avondale will receive new mobile base station to improve mobile coverage under round 2 of the Australian Government's Mobile Black Spot Program, Ken O'Dowd MP for Flynn announced today.

"I'm so pleased to announce new coverage for the residents of Avondale," Mr O'Dowd said.

"Mobile coverage for Avondale will be fantastic for the local businesses, residents and tourism industry"

"Round 2 of the Coalition's Mobile Black Spot Program will deliver new or upgraded coverage to 6500 homes and business across 17,500 square kilometres via 266 new or upgraded towers. This includes 1900 kilometres of major transport routes.

"Labor did not help build a single mobile phone tower nor invest a single cent in mobile coverage in six years of Government. I'm proud to be delivering better mobile coverage to Flynn."

Minister for Regional Communications Bridget McKenzie praised the program.

"In total, Rounds 1 and 2 of the Coalition's Program will deliver new coverage to 32,000 homes and businesses across 86,000 square kilometres including 7600 of major transport routes via 765 new mobile phone towers," Minister McKenzie said.

"I aim to help build the kinds of communities our children and grandchildren either want to stay in or come back to, and better mobile phone coverage is a big part of that."

Mr Ken O'Dowd said including co-contributions from carriers and state governments, round 2 represents a total new investment of \$213 million towards improved mobile coverage.

The locations for round 2 of the Mobile Black Spot Program were selected following an appeal to the public to nominate black spots.

These locations were entered into the national map which was provided to mobile network providers to assist them to develop funding applications. These were assessed against the program guidelines by the Department of Communications and the Minister accepted the Department's recommendations without change.

“The new base station in Flynn is due to the efforts of the community in identifying black spot locations and advocating for them to be fixed,” said Mr Ken O’Dowd

The locations of all of the 266 base stations can be found on the national map at [www.nationalmap.gov.au](http://www.nationalmap.gov.au)

More information about the Australian Government’s Mobile Black Spot Program can be found at [www.communications.gov.au/mbps](http://www.communications.gov.au/mbps)

### **Media Contacts**

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