

STRENGTHENING CONNECTIONS TODAY, SUPPORTING A RESILIENT TOMORROW.

DELMONT TOWER SIGNALS STRONGER FUTURE FOR NORTHERN MIDLANDS CONNECTIVITY



Michael Patterson Telstra Regional General Manager for Tasmania, Richard Duncan NMBA, Mayor Mary Knowles OAM Northern Midlands Council, Federal Member for Lyons Rebecca White and Gordon Williams NMBA Chief Executive.

The Delmont base station, officially brought on air this week, has been delivered through a co-investment partnership between the Australian Government and Telstra under the Mobile Black Spot Program (MBSP). The project aims to strengthen mobile capacity while addressing long-standing coverage gaps in the district. For a region where farming, transport and emergency response rely heavily on connectivity, the new tower represents a significant upgrade.

Reliable mobile service is now critical to modern agricultural operations, from precision farming and real-time monitoring to coordinating contractors and accessing markets. For many local producers, improved coverage will enable more efficient use of agri-tech and strengthen day-to-day productivity. Beyond the farm gate, the Delmont tower is also being recognised as an important safety investment. Stronger coverage improves access to emergency services and supports disaster preparedness in a region where communication gaps can have serious consequences.

A CONNECTED AND RESILIENT FUTURE

Mayor Mary Knowles OAM said the investment reflects the broader direction of the Northern Midlands. "What we're seeing across the Northern Midlands is the power of strong partnerships – whether it's improving connectivity, supporting our farmers, or investing in our young people," she said.

"Projects like the Delmont tower and initiatives such as Illuminate show how we are building a region that is more connected, more resilient, and better prepared for the future."

LOCAL ADVOCACY BEHIND THE PROJECT

While the tower's completion marks a key infrastructure milestone, it also reflects sustained local advocacy and collaboration. The Northern Midlands Business Association (NMBA) has worked closely with Telstra and government partners over several years to strengthen mobile connectivity across the region.

NMBA Chief Executive Gordon Williams said improving coverage had been a long-standing priority. "For several years now, the Northern Midlands Business Association has worked closely with Telstra to strengthen mobile connectivity across our region," he said.

After years of advocacy and project development, the Northern Midlands has significantly reduced its mobile black spot footprint – positioning the region among the more connected rural municipalities in Tasmania.

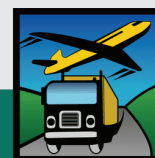
Alongside investments in infrastructure, the region is also focusing on the next generation – supporting young people to help shape a more resilient future...

NMBA: SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS AND BUILDING REGIONAL CONNECTIONS

The Northern Midlands Business Association (NMBA) continues to play a key role in supporting local business and strengthening connections across the region. As a not-for-profit organisation, NMBA works with businesses, community groups and government to encourage collaboration, share knowledge and support regional growth.

Through initiatives such as Illuminate Education Challenge Week, NMBA helps connect young people with local industries and opportunities, fostering the next generation of leaders and innovators.

Membership provides businesses with opportunities to engage in regional projects, build networks, and contribute to initiatives that benefit both the local economy and the wider community. for more information visit their website www.nmba.asn.au



Northern Midlands
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION INC.

ILLUMINATE CHALLENGE WEEK EMPOWERS STUDENTS TO TACKLE CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Local students will take on one of the region's most important challenges during Illuminate Education Challenge Week 2026 – exploring how communities can respond to climate change and increasingly unpredictable weather conditions. Delivered by the Northern Midlands Business Association (NMBA), the program will run from 15–19 June at Perth Primary School Hall, bringing together Years 5 and 6 students from across Campbell Town, Cressy, Longford, Perth and Bracknell.

This year's theme – community resilience to climate change and weather events – will see students explore how towns, farms, families, services and businesses can prepare, adapt and support one another through warmer, drier and less predictable conditions. Working in teams, students will step into the role of innovators – identifying real challenges, developing practical ideas, and pitching their solutions to the community at the end of the week.

The program builds on strong participation in previous years, with around 400 students involved across 2024 and 2025, highlighting the growing impact of the initiative in the region. Students will be encouraged to think broadly about resilience, including preparedness, water awareness, communication, supporting vulnerable people and strengthening community connections. More than just a school program, Illuminate builds skills in teamwork, leadership and problem-solving, helping young people see how they can contribute to the future of their local community. Families, businesses and community members were invited to attend the student presentations and awards ceremony Friday 19 June.

LEFT: Students collaborate during Illuminate Education Challenge Week

RIGHT: Young innovators present their ideas at Illuminate, showcasing creative approaches to preparing Northern Midlands communities for future challenges.



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OPENING HOURS

Monday - Friday

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