

Media Release

19 October 2016

nbn[™] network arrives in Piara Waters and Harrisdale

More than 3000 homes and businesses within parts of Piara Waters and Harrisdale are set to be able to experience the benefits of fast broadband, following the recent switch on of the **nbn**™ network in the area.

More than 19,000 premises in neighbouring suburbs are also expected to be able to connect over the next few months and into next year. These suburbs include Armadale, Bedfordale, Brookdale, Byford, Darling Downs, Forrestdale, Harrisdale, Haynes, Hilbert, Mount Nasura, Mount Richon, Seville Grove, Wungong and remaining parts of Piara Waters.

Fixed line construction also recently commenced to more than 10,400 premises in parts of Camillo, Roleystone, Kelmscott, Champion Lakes, Mount Nasura and Seville Grove.

WA Corporate Affairs Manager Ebony Aitken noted Australians are expected to spend an extra 22 days on the internet this year than they did in 2014.

"It's really great news for local residents and businesses, especially as using the internet has become part of our everyday lives and online multi-tasking is the new norm," she said.

"As we move further into the digital age, fast and reliable broadband becomes more vital than ever in areas such as business, health, education, entertainment and leisure.

City of Armadale Mayor Henry Zelones OAM JP welcomed the announcement and said the much-awaited switch on would herald many new opportunities for homes and businesses in the area.

"Faster connections and downloads will go a long way to unlocking the full potential of our traditionally limited internet service," Henry said.

"Piara Waters and Harrisdale residents have waited patiently for this service and I am delighted to see **nbn** being delivered to households and businesses in one of the fastest growing regions in Australia. It will be great to see the new network helping improve business productivity and allowing faster access to online educational tools for our children."

David Hayes, a local Piara Waters' resident and owner of Active Restart, a personal training business run out of Bailey Fitness said a fast internet connection will enable him to be more interactive with his clients.

"I'm looking at launching a new website and have recently just started using a new online system where my clients can book or change an existing appointment at the touch of a button," David said.

"Nowadays, a key factor for people selecting a service is the ease in which they can manage their appointments online. In my line of work, interacting with clients through fast, reliable broadband drives business."

You can find out whether you are eligible to connect to the **nbn™** network as well as more information about the areas scheduled to complete the transition to the **nbn™** network by visiting <u>www.nbnco.com.au</u>

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Key nbn facts

- In WA, more than 320,000 premises are now able to connect and more than 125,000 premises activated.
- The **nbn** Broadband Index was undertaken by an independent research agency in June 2016
 - It surveyed 10,348 Australians across metropolitan, regional and remote areas including those connected to the nbn™ network and those not connected
 - The study found that those with access to the **nbn**™ network are the greatest users.

nbn™ Media Hotline

- Most are getting online when we open our eyes and before we go to sleep
- A quarter of us (28%) hit the internet when we wake in the night
- Almost three quarters of us (73%) do it while watching TV
- A third while cooking (34%)
- Some of us have even confessed to being online on the loo (33%)
- For the full report including graphics click here
- The announcement begins the 18 month countdown for these premises to make the switch before most existing landline phone and internet services are replaced by services over the **nbn**™ network.

Notes to editors

• *We're designing the **nbn**™ network to provide these speeds to our wholesale customers, telephone and internet service providers. End user experience, including the speeds actually achieved over the **nbn**™ network, depends on the technology over which services are delivered to your premises and some factors outside our control like equipment quality, software, signal reception, broadband plans and how the end user's service provider designs its network.