

Be.Bendigo  
www.bebendigo.com.au  
Phone - (03) 5442 7816  
Email - admin@bebendigo.com.au

276 Hargreaves Mall, Bendigo

PO Box 113  
Bendigo Central, Victoria 3552

**BE.**  
**BENDIGO**

To Whom It May Concern,

10/06/2022

**MA1000021 – Telstra TPG Spectrum Transaction**

Be.Bendigo (Bendigo Business Council) would like to express it's support for the proposed Telstra-TPG MOCN agreement which will provide the wider Bendigo region with greater coverage, capacity and choice in telecommunications.

Be.Bendigo exists to provide a range of information, support and programs to assist, develop and grow our broader business community. We are a member based organisation with a commitment to developing our business so that we can continue to add value for our members, partners and stakeholders.

Whilst Bendigo city is well-serviced with telecommunications, the surrounding areas experience significant inequity in digital infrastructure, service quality and cost, resulting in businesses being less competitive and sustainable when compared to their urban counterparts.

The City of Greater Bendigo population is forecast to grow by an average 1.9% per annum with the suburb of Huntly forecast to grow by 190.5% by 2036, and as the demand for data services continues to grow, so does the pressure on the existing telecommunications network, which despite new investment from multiple telcos such as Telstra and TPG, continues to increase the frequency of mobile coverage drop outs and slow speeds for residents and businesses across the region, creating further disadvantage.

By pooling the available spectrum and network coverage from two providers, the MOCN will alleviate network congestion issues whilst simultaneously introducing a third option for residents and businesses located within the MOCN area in terms of service provider and all of the solutions they offer, which Be.Bendigo believes will only encourage greater competition and further investment in regional and rural areas. In addition to this, the MOCN will cater to the tourism industry by providing a better user experience for existing metro TPG customers, and will provide the much-needed additional spectrum required to facilitate large-scale events across the Bendigo region.

The Telstra-TPG MOCN is a common-sense solution which Be.Bendigo are confident will have significant benefits for the communities within the Greater Bendigo area, and more broadly across regional and rural Australia.



Robert Herbert  
Chief Executive Officer