

## Mobile Coverage Programme Discussion Paper Submission Cover Sheet

### Submission Information

This cover sheet should be attached to submissions made to the Department of Communications in relation to the Mobile Coverage Programme Discussion Paper.

#### Contact Details

Name of respondent:	Heather Shore
Name of organisation:	Rugby Public School
Phone:	
Email:	
Website (if applicable):	
Date:	21 /02 /2014.

#### Confidentiality and privacy

All submissions and comments, or parts thereof, will be treated as non-confidential information unless specifically requested, and acceptable reasons should accompany each request. Email disclaimers will not be considered sufficient confidentiality requests.

Respondents lodging a submission should be aware that submissions (excluding any information agreed to be treated as confidential information) will be made publicly available, including on the Department of Communications' website. Submissions and comments will be subject to freedom of information provisions. Despite a submission being identified as confidential or sensitive, submissions may be disclosed where authorised or required by law, or for the purpose of parliamentary processes.

Do you want all or parts of the submission to be treated as confidential? Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, identify below which parts of the submission are to be treated as confidential (and provide a reason):

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If the submission contains personal information of any third party individual, indicate on this Submission Cover Sheet if that third party individual has not consented to the publication of his or her personal information:

#### Submission Instructions

Submissions are to be made by 5:00pm (AEST) Friday 28 February 2014.

Where possible, submissions should be lodged electronically, preferably in Microsoft Word or other text-based formats via the email address [mobilecoverage@communications.gov.au](mailto:mobilecoverage@communications.gov.au)

Alternatively, submissions can be sent to the postal address below (to arrive by the due date):

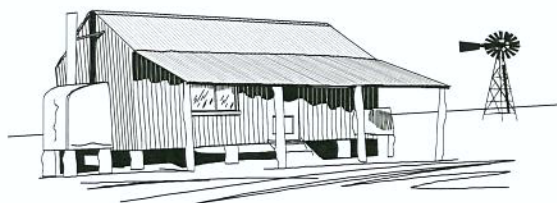
The Manager  
Mobile Coverage Programme  
Department of Communications  
GPO Box 2154  
CANBERRA ACT 2615

All submissions lodged will be acknowledged by the Department of Communications by email (or by letter if no email is provided). Respondents lodging a submission who do not receive acknowledgement of their submission should contact the Department. Submissions which are not acknowledged by the Department as being received may not be considered. Respondents should be aware that emails greater than 10Mb may not be successfully delivered.

# RUGBY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Established 1887

*Relieving Principal:*  
*Mrs Heather Shore*  
*3074 Rugby Rd*  
*Rugby NSW 2583*  
*NSW 2583*



**Phone: 02 4835 7241**

**Fax: 02 4835 7205**

**Email:**  
*rugby--p.school@det.nsw.edu.au*

**ABN 84 484 499 602**

The Manager  
Mobile Coverage Program  
Department of Communications  
GPO Box 2154  
Canberra ACT 2615

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to you concerning the absence of mobile phone coverage in our area.

We are a small country school situated, between the towns of Boorowa and Crookwell on [REDACTED] and there are many reasons why mobile phone coverage would be beneficial in our area.

Firstly many people have had reason to stop at the school to use the landline as the public phone was not in service and we are the only public entity in the area and because there is no mobile service in Rugby or it's surrounds.

It would also be useful in cases of emergency. Whilst travelling to school last year I was involved in a serious car accident and had the need to use my mobile phone, as there were no farms or other facilities in the immediate vicinity to call on to use their phone. Thankfully I had some service, but if I had been slightly closer to Rugby I would not have had any service to call the appropriate people, apart from 000 (Triple Zero).

At our school we are very isolated and we have few facilities on site. A functioning mobile phone with service would enable us to have safer school excursions in and around our village.

As well as this, recently we had a student enrolled at our school who had many medical issues and fortunately we never had the need to call an ambulance however we needed a constant contact with a landline to ensure her safety and well-being.



With the advent of new technology many people have had reason to call to ask for directions because their mapping devices on their phones need mobile phone technology to function correctly and the absence of this in our area causes them to not work.

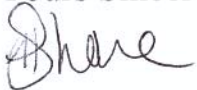
During the recent bushfires in our area mobile phone coverage would have enabled faster more reliable contact between our local firefighters and their families.

It is also difficult to teach children about the safe and responsible use of mobile phones when they are unable to see one working in the classroom. It would also assist with the understanding of money, bill payments and responsibility with mobile phone usage if these types of phones were able to be used in our area.

Therefore for the reasons outlined above I believe that the absence of mobile phone coverage is detrimental to the education of our students and helping and helping their understanding of how mobile phones should be used safely and responsibly.

Mobile phone coverage would also be beneficial in emergency situations to contact families and parents other than 000 (Triple Zero) and would assist in efficient communication for the area.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'H. Shore'.

Heather Shore  
Relieving Principal  
Rugby Public School