

Our Reference: S014-T00006

14 June 2022

Manager – Community Consultations
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
mergerauthorisations@accc.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Proposed spectrum sharing arrangement between Telstra Corporation Limited and TPG Telecom Limited

Eurobodalla Shire is a regional local government area located on the New South Wales south coast approximately 188km to the east of Canberra and 319km south of Sydney. The resident population of 39,362, enjoys a lifestyle of high natural amenity bordered by the Great Dividing Range and Tasman Sea. Due to our location and natural assets, the region attracts more than 1.2 million visitors per annum contributing \$288 million to the local economy across 3,000 businesses. Like other regional locations, our estimated resident population previously forecast to decline has grown by 3 percent during the pandemic.

Again, like other regional areas, Council regularly receives complaints regarding coverage and capacity issues from residents, visitors and businesses on telecommunications issues. Our advocacy to secure development of infrastructure and improved service provision is an ongoing piece of work. We seek and support opportunities that enable improved standards of carrier competition and capability within our region. In supporting this multi-operator core network agreement between Telstra Corporation Limited and TPG Telecom Limited, we believe as a stakeholder this will deliver the following outcomes:

- expanded carrier coverage across the Eurobodalla region enabling greater choice of retail products for business and residents,
- increase network coverage out of major towns for visitors to the region,
- address capacity issues within the network during seasonal peaks; and
- provide consistency of data speeds.

If you require further information, please contact me on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Mathew Hatcher
Mayor