

ROSS DANIELS LABOR CANDIDATE FOR RYAN MEDIA RELEASE

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LABOR'S LOCAL CHALLENGE: "SHOW US THE BROADBAND"

Ross Daniels, Labor Candidate for Ryan, today challenged the Howard Government to release broadband maps for Ryan electorate, suspecting their delayed release means bad news for locals.

"We know that local Members of Parliament have been provided with Broadband coverage maps for their electorates – why hasn't the map for Ryan been made public?" he said.

"Locals have been contacting me increasingly, with concerns that Federal Government silence means they have something to hide."

Mr Daniels said that the Howard Government needs to come clean on what's planned for the Ryan electorate.

"We need to know how much of the Ryan Electorate will get John Howard's second class wireless broadband, and how much will get fibre connections" he said.

"From all of the information provided so far, it seems very likely that parts of Ryan will do badly."

Mr Daniels said that this is not good enough for areas so close to a major city.

"The Ryan electorate is very hilly, and wireless will provide very poor Broadband service to large areas," he said.

"Mr Howard's cobbled together plan only delivers high-speed fibre networks in the inner areas of five major capital cities, leaving families, students and business operators outside those areas to struggle with an inferior wireless service."

Unlike Federal Labor's high-speed fibre to the node National Broadband Network - which will roll out to 98 per cent of Australians - wireless broadband suffers from a range of technical problems.

"Wireless isn't up to the job - it's that simple," Mr Daniels said.

"The fact is that the performance and reliability of wireless suffers because of distance issues, bad weather, hilly geography and congestion problems when many use the service at any one time."

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