



Councillor **William Maslin**

For Immediate Release

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Councillors back Maslin on digital television

Gundagai Shire Councillor, William Maslin, said today he is pleased his colleagues gave his Notice of Motion regarding digital television reception in the Gundagai Shire unanimous support at today's Council meeting.

Cr Maslin who presented a report to Council on the matter said that it was time Council made representations to the broadcasters while having regard for the responsibility falling to the Australian Government.

"The intent of the motion is to find out where the broadcasters are at and whether they foresee any issues for the Gundagai area when the digital switchover occurs," Cr Maslin said.

"Once we receive these responses Council can decide what action to take, whether to lobby the broadcasters for a better deal or take it up directly with the Commonwealth.

The Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy have advised that the Mount Parnassus self help site will not be upgraded as it is in an area already serviced by a broadcaster operated transmitter at Mount Ulandra, about 35 kilometres north of Gundagai.

"If the analogue retransmission site on Mount Parnassus is not upgraded to digital, it is expected Australian taxpayers could be paying out more in satellite subsidies to Gundagai residents under the Australian Government's Household Assistance Scheme than what it would to upgrade the site," Cr Maslin concluded.

End.

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