



BRAD BATTIN MP
State Member for Gembrook



JASON WOOD MP
Federal Member for La Trobe

MEDIA RELEASE

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FEDERAL, STATE GOVERNMENT LAUNCH LOCATION-BASED EMERGENCY WARNINGS

Member for La Trobe Jason Wood and Member for Gembrook Brad Battin have welcomed the launch of a location-based Emergency Alert system that will be sent across all Australian mobile phone networks during emergencies.

Mr Wood said the Federal Government had invested nearly \$60 million towards establishing the Emergency Alert telephone system used by emergency service agencies.

“The location-based enhancement to the Emergency Alert system means anyone near an emergency will receive a text message on their mobile phone,” Mr Wood said.

“Previously, emergency alert messages were sent to mobile phones with a registered address in the emergency area, meaning tourists, workers or other visitors from outside the area would not receive any warnings.

“This service is designed to reach active mobile phones that are roaming Australia’s networks. It is an important development is another step towards improving the safety of Australians.”

Mr Battin said that the location-based emergency alert system was the final milestone in the national telephone-based emergency warning system, which was led by the Victorian Government.

“This is an important and timely development for the communities in Gembrook and La Trobe, prior to the coming bushfire season.

“This technology could help save lives. However, people should not rely solely on one source for emergency information.

“It is important that people stay aware of outside conditions, tune in to the radio and check emergency services websites.”

Mr Battin said the Victorian Government contributed \$8 million and led the four-year national project to deliver the location-based emergency warning capability.

Brad Battin MP
State Member for Gembrook
5/6-8 Langmore Lane Berwick VIC 3806
(03) 98796 1987

Jason Wood MP
Federal Member for La Trobe
3/16 Langmore Lane Berwick VIC 3806
(03) 9768 9164