



David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

Media Statement

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Maranoa MP calls for free data day as compensation for Telstra's network failures across the Southern Downs over busy Australia Day weekend

SLUGGISH texts and painfully slow internet speeds – that's what many Telstra mobile phone users experienced on the weekend, prompting Maranoa MP David Littleproud to demand a "free data day" to make up for network failures across the Southern Downs.

"You were flat out sharing a selfie with mates at an Australia Day barbecue or texting a career-best wicket photo during the Cricket Carnival as Telstra dropped the ball in our region with a 4G network outage from Thursday afternoon until late Monday," Mr Littleproud said.

"If this outage happened in Brisbane, there'd be a revolt so I'm calling for Telstra to declare a free data day as compensation for letting us down during one the busiest weekends for our region.

"This year, Australia Day fell on Friday, meaning a long weekend which not only saw tourists keen to explore our communities but also the Condamine Sports Club Warwick Australia Day Cricket Carnival which enticed nine teams to don their whites and play on pitches across the Southern Downs.

"What should have been a prime weekend to showcase our region turned sour as Telstra was out of action and I think the telco should compensate our region for its stuff up."

Fact box:

- What happened?

Telstra services were out of action from Thursday, January 25 until Monday, January 29 with both 4G mobile service and mobile data affected. The outage covered the Warwick city centre and extended to Womina, Leslie Dam, Rosenthal Heights, Morgan Park and Junabee.

- What's a free data day?

Holding two separate free data days was Telstra's method of compensating customers for a series of network failures during 2016. The February 14, 2016, free data day saw Telstra customers use 1841 terabytes of data, worth about 2.3 million movies.

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