



LINKAGES – Edition 25

ADSL Closer for 23 Exchanges in WA!

ADSL (Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line) provides cost effective access to the internet, over existing copper phone lines. Where available, ADSL is the preferred primary connection method for LCC Gateways; unfortunately, only a few country towns (such as Moora and Meekatharra) have been fortunate enough to have ADSL thus far.

Good news! The financial assistance available under the Higher Bandwidth Incentive Scheme (HiBIS) has allowed Telstra to announce that the number of users required to make ADSL viable, has been significantly lowered for 23 exchanges in WA. These exchanges are:

- Augusta ●Bluff Point ●Byford ●Capel ●Denham ●Derby ●Donnybrook ●Dwellingup ●Glenfield ●Harvey ●Kambalda ●Kellerberrin ●Marble Bar ●Merredin ●Mt Helena ●Onslow ●Pannawonica ●Paraburdoo ●Parkerville ●Pinjarra ●Serpentine ●Tom Price ●Yunderup

Please contact the LCC Helpdesk to discuss adding your organisation's needs to the ADSL Register of Interest, thus helping get ADSL to your town as soon as possible.

Also, note that ADSL can be connected to an existing LCC Gateway, simply by plugging the ADSL Modem into the labelled port; the technical details will be taken care of by the LCC team.

Reliable Internet

Whilst talking of ADSL, it is important to recognise that while ADSL provides a cost-effective high speed Internet connection, the reliability is significantly lower than ISDN or other mature technologies. Many of you will have heard the widespread reports in mainstream media about the national ADSL outages on Thursday 12th August. LCC Gateway sites lost ADSL around 01:30 on the 12th August, and only regained ADSL connectivity over the range of 10:00 to 14:16.

Importantly however, the LCC Gateways are designed to automatically detect the failure of the primary link, and revert to a secondary link, or failing that too, try an emergency backup account on the secondary link. This has proved invaluable in maintaining a high degree of reliable internet connection (indeed, the internet was originally based on the premise of forming a reliable network out of many unreliable links).

It is therefore important to make sure the PSTN phone line remains plugged into the LCC Gateway, to survive occasional outages of the primary link.

New LCC Gateways Deployed

Congratulations to Shire of Nannup for the commissioning of the latest LCC Gateway. Also, many thanks to all the councils that returned the MOA for the LCC Gateway.

Scheduled Outage

Please be advised that there will be scheduled outage of LCC hosted services on Saturday 4th September.

An upgrade and maintenance of central infrastructure has been planned and scheduled for this time, with additional redundancy to be implemented that will result in a further increase in the reliability of LCC hosted services.

On this day, between the hours of 13:00 – 17:00, there may be temporary intermittent unavailability of Council websites and difficulty (delays) in retrieving mail from the central mail services. Operations of non-central services (eg. LCC gateways) will not be affected by this outage.

We apologise in advance for any inconvenience that may be experienced by your Council during this upgrade. If you have any questions surrounding this scheduled event, please contact the LCC helpdesk at helpdesk@linkingcouncils.com.

Training

Further to the recent upgrade of the LCC web content management system (CMS), the training team have been busy organising and delivering regional training sessions across Western Australia.

To date, CMS training has been conducted in the following localities:

- Mandurah ●Jurien ●Murray ●Williams ●Bridgetown ●Derby ●Mingenew ●Dongara

Upcoming CMS training sessions are scheduled over the next few weeks at venues located in:

- Denham ●Katanning ●Corrigin ●Cambridge ●Mukinbudin ●Coolgardie ●Cue

For more details concerning these training sessions, please contact the LCC helpdesk at helpdesk@linkingcouncils.com.

