



TAYLOR DOORKNOCKING IN MURRUMBATEMAN

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Angus Taylor, the Liberal Candidate for Hume did not waste too much time in getting to Yass after the federal election announcement. He spent last Thursday afternoon doorknocking in Murrumbateman.

Mr Taylor said that it didn't matter how many events, shows, dinners or street stalls politicians went to, there was nothing quite like doorknocking for getting to know a community. With him was Rick Umback, son of Les Umback who owns the Murrumbateman takeaway café.

Mr Taylor said there were two big issues to emerge from the doorknocking in Murrumbateman.

"The first issue was something with which I am already well familiar - the need for the duplication of the Barton Highway. On this issue the coalition hears and has heard the Yass region. We have committed to work commencing on the Barton Highway in the last two federal elections. However, Labor has never made a commitment to fixing the Barton Highway. It is high priority for us, and I will fight tooth and nail to make sure it remains a priority despite pressure on funds. I have also completed a preliminary cost benefit analysis of the duplication. As Tony Abbott has pointed out in recent weeks, proper cost benefit analysis is central to the coalition's approach to prioritising investments in infrastructure.

"The other issue I heard a lot was education. In particular, it is striking how many families in Murrumbateman are impacted by the absence of a primary school in that town, and the shortage of childcare spots. Whilst some families might prefer to use out of town education, there are certainly some who would use a local primary school. It is easy to think that Murrumbateman families can be readily serviced by Yass or the ACT or Canberra for primary education. But it is extraordinary that a town of three thousand people does not have a primary school. I grew up in a town of 500 which had two schools! And there are other towns and villages in Hume with tiny populations which

have primary schools. Murrumbateman's situation must be almost unprecedented.

Whilst the direct funding of primary schools is a matter for the state government, a case for a primary school in Murrumbateman is compelling.

Please contact Angus Taylor on 0413 963 113 for further information.