

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **LIAC SUPPORTS UNBUNDLING**

The Library and Information Advisory Commission (LIAC) Ngā Kaiwhakamārama i ngā Kohikohinga Kōrero welcomes yesterday's announcement by the Hon David Cunliffe on 'unbundling the loop'.

LIAC's recent advice to the Hon Judith Tizard, Minister Responsible for the National Library, was that there was an urgent need for broadband with levels of bandwidth comparable to that in other developed countries, as an essential plank of the Government's Digital Strategy. LIAC had strongly recommended a minimum standard of 2 Mbps bandwidth rising to 10 Mbps by 2010 - as expressed in its slogan '**2 to 10 by 2010 for all people, all the time**'.

Unbundling the loop is a critical first step to achieving the Connection goal of the Digital Strategy and advancing the complementary goals of Content and Capability.

LIAC endorses the directions of the National Digital Content Strategy, lead by the National Library, and the Commission has been developing the concept of NZ Online. It believes that the Capability goal would be strengthened by establishing a 'People's Network' similar to that in the UK, which has seen public libraries provide UK citizens with over 60million hours a year of high speed access to the internet. Initiatives like this support LIAC's vision of "**Aotearoa – New Zealand: a leading information democracy**"

**Library and Information Advisory Commission** [www.liac.org.nz](http://www.liac.org.nz)  
**National Digital Strategy** [www.digitalstrategy.co.nz](http://www.digitalstrategy.co.nz).



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