



## David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

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# Media Statement

January 17, 2018

### **Roma Aero Club receives \$20,000 for new emergency multi-purpose area under Stronger Communities Programme**

THE Roma Aero Club's vision means the region will have a better facility for emergency transfers thanks to Federal Government funding, Maranoa MP David Littleproud announced today.

"Under the Stronger Communities Programme, the Roma Aero Club will receive \$20,000 to build a new multi-purpose area to assist the club to offer advanced rural pilot training and build an undercover space for emergency transfers," Mr Littleproud said.

"Under the funding guidelines, projects had to deliver social benefits and the Aero Club's proposal will not only provide a safe and heat-free environment for patients and travellers to wait but also can be used as an operations centre during natural disasters."

In July, Mr Littleproud put out a call to community groups asking, "What would you do with \$20,000?" and was overwhelmed by the calibre and array of projects nominated for Stronger Communities Programme funding.

"Locals know their community best and have innovative ideas on how to support their region so when it comes to advocating for funding, Maranoa is ahead of the game," he said.

"Whether it was community hall upgrades, armature shooting to polocrosse and rodeo associations – and everything in-between – project nominations were of a high standard and I received more than 50 applications seeking more than \$500,000 in funding.

"I represent 42% of rural and remote Queensland and I wanted our bush communities to get the most out of this great funding initiative so I'd like to thank all the groups that put forward such wonderful projects."

All federal electorates, including Maranoa, were allocated \$150,000 under the Stronger Communities Programme, with up to 20 projects being able to be funded.

An Independent Assessment Panel reviewed all funding applications and successful projects were then invited to progress to the next phase, where projects were then reviewed by the Industry Department for final approval.

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