



David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

Media Statement

6 October 2016

Palaszczuk Government must show us the pest management money

With the Federal Government's recent announcement of an additional \$2 million in funding for pest management in Queensland, the Federal Member for Maranoa has called on the Palaszczuk Government to not only come to the table and match the Federal Government's \$2 million contribution, but to finally put the long-promised \$5 million it committed to back in May this year on the table.

"Last year the Federal Government committed to and delivered \$10 million to building dog fences in Queensland from a \$15 million national pest management allocation - and it's fantastic to see that our investment is already delivering in terms of the returns to farmers, diversification opportunities, environmental benefits and increasing employment in rural communities," Mr Littleproud said today

"However the reality is there's a lot more work to be done to dog-proof the affected parts of Queensland and further investment is crucial."

Mr Littleproud is critical of the State Government avoiding the delivery of the \$5 million funding promise that Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk made to landholders in Barcaldine on Labour Day earlier this year.

"As far as I am aware, the Palaszczuk Government has not yet delivered on their promise and I'm calling on them to put their money where their mouth is to help our farmers get back on their feet and generate real growth opportunities in rural Queensland," he said.

Mr Littleproud has further called on the State Government to match the Coalition Government's recent \$2 million commitment.

"At this point, the State Government is not delivering particularly when it comes to agriculture and economic development in rural Queensland," he said.

"When you consider that regional councils like Quilpie, Western Downs and Maranoa almost double the GDP contributions of Brisbane as a result of strong agricultural sector performance – and that's despite the challenging drought conditions - the State Government's inaction to invest money in a program that actually delivers for Queensland completely baffles me."

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