



Barnaby Joyce

Deputy Prime Minister

David Littleproud

Federal Member for Maranoa

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New infrastructure will protect planes at the home of Qantas

- **Coalition Government has committed \$11.3 million to upgrade the Qantas Founders Museum in Longreach, Queensland**
- **Estimated 64 new local jobs and boost for regional tourism**
- **Project will construct a new facility to protect planes on display from weather elements**

The Coalition Government's strong economic management has continued to deliver for regional Australia following the allocation of \$11.3 million to the Qantas Founders Museum in the 2017-18 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO).

Deputy prime Minister and Leader of The Nationals, Barnaby Joyce, said the Coalition Government's additional funding would support the region's tourism industry, which celebrates Australia's first and most enduring aviation company.

"The Qantas Founders Museum opened in 1996 and tells the story of the Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Service (Qantas), Australia's foundation airline company, from its inception as a mail carrier in 1920," Mr Joyce said.

"This funding will help preserve the Qantas story making sure these historical aircraft and artefacts are protected from the harsh Australian climate for current and future generations of Australians to enjoy and learn about its strong and proud history."

Mr Joyce said the Coalition Government was committed to investing in regional communities to ensure they remain viable.

"We're delivering a range of projects across the region, including through the Building Better Regions Fund, and it's this investment that's creating jobs for residents," Mr Joyce said.

"This long-awaited upgrade is being delivered in conjunction with the Museum's proposed new venture, *Luminescent Longreach* – a light and sound show that will utilise the floor, walls and aircraft in the new structure to tell how the past has created the future."

Federal Member for Maranoa David Littleproud said *Luminscent Longreach* would operate all year-round providing a major addition to Central Queensland's tourism attractions.

"The large scale of this unique show and authentic experience is estimated to more than double the current number of visitors to Central Queensland," Mr Littleproud said.

"Once complete, we anticipate the museum and show will attract strong interest from international tourists to provide the local economy with a welcome boost estimated to be worth more than \$25 million, and to generate 64 new jobs."

Media Contacts

For Mr Joyce:

Jake Smith

0403 466 153

For Mr Littleproud:

Electorate Office

02 6277 2276