



## Hon David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

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### Media statement

April 18, 2018

#### **\$7200 for Texas Men's Shed**

THE Texas Men's Shed has been awarded a grant of \$7200 from the Coalition Government for building upgrades under the Government's National Shed Development Programme.

Maranoa MP David Littleproud today congratulated the Texas Men's Shed for its successful application for the grant. The Texas Men's Shed will use its government grant to replace the roof of the shed.

"Like similar sheds across Australia, the Texas shed offers great benefits to any local men who need a bit of space and some friendly, easy-going company," Mr Littleproud said.

"The Coalition Government recognises these benefits and is providing a total of \$5.1 million over three years to the national men's sheds movement."

"Men are talking about their health more and more, and the men's shed provides a safe and friendly environment for them to do so. Men's sheds are integral to the community and the benefits to men's health are widely acknowledged", Mr Littleproud said.

In 2016, the rate of suicide among Australian males was more than three times that of females.

Heath Minister Greg Hunt said although mental illness affects both men and women, men are less likely to seek help or talk about their feelings.

"Feeling part of a social group is important to our emotional and mental health and every day Men's Sheds around the country provide men with an opportunity for companionship," Minister Hunt said.

The grants programme provides funding for health improvement activities, the purchase of tools and equipment, community projects and training, and for building maintenance and development.

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