



Hon David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

Media statement

April 18, 2018

\$8498 for Roma Community Men's Shed

THE Roma Community Men's Shed has been awarded a grant of \$8498 from the Coalition Government for equipment and building upgrades under the Government's National Shed Development Programme.

Maranoa MP David Littleproud today congratulated the Roma Community Men's Shed for its successful application for the grant.

"Like similar sheds across Australia, the Roma 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."

Roma Community Men's Shed will use its government grant to install a Zippy boiler and dishwasher to enhance the meeting space and also have an 80 square meter concrete slab laid around the shed to address safety and access, particularly for those with disabilities.

"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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