



David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

Media Statement

September 27, 2018

\$200 million Building Better Regions Fund now open: David Littleproud MP

THE entire Maranoa electorate could benefit from a new round of Federal Government funding worth \$200 million, specifically targeted to improve and increase liveability in bush communities.

Maranoa MP David Littleproud – whose vast electorate covers about 42% of rural and remote Queensland – said the Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) would provide a huge boost.

“Round three of the BBRF is now open, until November 15, to help address the challenges faced by bush communities with this round also focusing on tourism,” Mr Littleproud said.

“We know we live in the best corner of the nation and I want Maranoa to secure our fair share of the \$45 million of this funding earmarked to invest in tourism-related infrastructure projects, to draw in more visitors to our communities and grow the local economy.

The BBRF is divided into two streams. The Infrastructure Projects Stream will invest in new construction or existing project upgrades; and the Community Investments Stream is about strengthening liveability.

During the previous BBRF rounds, Mr Littleproud secured more than \$18.9 million for exciting infrastructure and community building projects.

“What’s great about this funding is that project are driven by the community and we’re represented in the Coalition Government’s BBRF as major capital cities are excluded in the funding’s guidelines,” he said.

“With three regional councils in my electorate contributing more per capita than Brisbane City Council, it makes sense our regions should be supported and that’s why the Coalition Government introduced this funding.”

For more information, check out: www.business.gov.au/bbrf

FACT BOX:

Funding under the BBRF is available in two streams:

- **Infrastructure Projects Stream:** Investment into the construction of new infrastructure, or upgrade or extension of existing infrastructure. To also help regions unlock their tourism potential, a key priority for Round Three will be to help

stimulate local economies by investing in the tourism sector through tourism-related infrastructure projects.

- **Community Investments Stream:** Investment in local events and activities, strategic regional plans and leadership and capability building activities.
- Applications close November 15, 2018.

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Successful BBRF 2017 projects worth \$9.54 million:

- \$1.8 million to boost aged care in Barcaldine by building six new units.
- \$3.9 million Roma Saleyard Multi-Purpose Facility.
- \$3.6 million Eromanga Natural History Museum for a new building for research and to display a collection of local fossil discoveries.
- \$107,000 for five community investment programs to assist those with a disability in Blackall, Charleville, Longreach, St George and Winton explore employment opportunities; help the Crows Nest and Millmerran regions develop a strategic plan; help young people from Barcaldine learn traditional dance; and showcase Goondiwindi region products through a festival.

Successful BBRF 2016 projects worth \$9.36 million:

- \$4.8 million to help construct a new regional beef cold storage facility in Warwick to overcome processing restraints in the Darling Downs.
- \$200,000 to build affordable housing for seniors in Blackbutt.
- \$4 million improve livestock transportation at Morven.
- \$168,525 for six community investment projects to help cement Maranoa as a go-to tourism destination. Projects ranged from fishing in the Condamine River; future tourism plans for Winton, the Diamantina and Southern Downs communities; and a multicultural fashion parade and food and fibre festival on the Western Downs.

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