



## David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

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# Media Statement

October 5, 2018

### **BOOST OF \$50 MILLION FOR FINANCIALLY DISADVANTAGED**

To help people pay their bills and ongoing living expenses, the Coalition Government has committed \$50 million to support financially disadvantaged Australians, Member for Maranoa David Littleproud announced today.

“Some 65 community organisations will receive \$50 million to help significantly financially disadvantaged people,” Mr Littleproud said.

“Community organisations will help people get back on track, manage their money and become financially independent.”

Mr Littleproud said the funding would help families and individuals meet their immediate needs and also manage their finances long-term.

“We’re providing counselling for problem gamblers and people who struggle to manage their finances. The funding also supports no interest loans of up to \$1500 for household essentials,” he said.

“Whether it’s paying an electricity bill or simply getting some food on the table – this funding aims to help people get on with their day-to-day lives.

“Nearly 700,000 people across Australia accessed this funding last year. We will continue this funding to support vulnerable Australians.”

This funding announcement is the first of three Financial Wellbeing and Capability Activity grants announcements.

A further \$278 million in Financial Wellbeing and Capability Activity grants will be announced shortly for Emergency Relief, Food Relief, Commonwealth Financial Counselling and Financial Capability and Financial Counselling Helpline services.

For more information about this funding, contact Lifeline Darling Downs and South West Queensland on 1300 991 443.

**FAST FACTS:**

**From 1 January 2019, the Government will provide:**

- up to \$8.2 million for Financial Counselling for Problem Gambling (to June 2020)
- up to \$21 million for Money Support Hubs (to June 2020)
- up to \$20.1 million for Microfinance (to June 2020)
- up to \$2.3 million to build capability for Commonwealth Financial Counsellors and Financial Capability workers (to June 2023).

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