

Media Statement

February 11, 2019

Federal Funds Will Help Bulloo Shire Upgrade and Develop Community Assets

Maranoa MP David Littleproud has secured \$570,080 worth of funding for a diverse series of projects in the Bulloo Council region through the Drought Communities Programme - Federal Government funding specifically designated to support communities in the most drought-affected regions of Australia.

"I'm proud to announce that the Drought Communities Programme will assist Bulloo Shire with road maintenance, upgrades to community infrastructure and also support some of the major events in the region," Mr Littleproud said.

"With 2019 being the Year of the Outback, making sure that roads and sidewalks are in top shape is a priority as we want our visitors to get here safely on their travels."

"I invite tourists to visit this unique part of Australia, learning about history and agriculture, while also experiencing its natural wonders because tourism dollars will also help our drought-affected communities keep afloat."

"We want visitors to have comfortable and easy access to all of the popular sites that can be found in the Bulloo region and give them the full picture of what the Outback is all about."

Funding at Noccundra will see upgrades to the community hall and sportsground.

Major access roads that have been worn away by weather and use will also be repaired.

"Making sure that Bulloo region's roads can accommodate road-trains is also a key economic priority," he said.

"Graziers in the area also need safe access to all public roads, as does any traveller or truckie."

Part of the funding will also be allocated to upgrading water reticulation pipework at Hungerford.

"There are four parts to the project at Hungerford, including replacement of the polyethylene pipe, installation of mains and then connecting those pipes to properties," he said.

"Hungerford acts as a lifeline for locals and tourists alike; servicing many surrounding cattle properties and as a gateway to some popular tourist sites. This funding will help keep the community going beyond this drought and into the future."

Grants for event and tourism development offers the Shire an opportunity to further diversify its economy, even during the extreme challenges of drought.

"Funding the Channel Country Music Festival, Cameron Corner New Year's Eve party and Rural Men's night ensures that locals have opportunities to take a break and enjoy themselves. It's a fantastic platform for locals to showcase the best of the region to visitors as well," he said.

Funding allocations:

• Rural Road Maintenance: \$320,000

Hungerford Reticulation Upgrade: \$80,000
Noccundra Infrastructure Upgrade: \$100,000
Events and Tourism Development: \$50,000

• Kerb and channelling: \$100,000

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