



## David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

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# Media Statement

February 7, 2019

### **Maranoa MP David Littleproud secures funding for infrastructure upgrades and developments across Southern Downs Regional Council through Drought Communities Programme Extension.**

Maranoa MP David Littleproud has secured \$1 million for the Southern Downs region under the Drought Communities Programme - Federal Government funding specifically designated to support communities in the most drought-affected regions of Australia.

“This funding is to boost local infrastructure projects and other drought-relief activities in the Southern Downs. Project funding is intended to provide short-term support, including by boosting local employment and procurement, and addressing social and community needs,” Mr Littleproud said.

“Funding has been allocated for five projects, including: water carting, water treatment upgrades, development of water dispensing station infrastructure, community hall upgrades, and the implementation of water saving devices at community and sports’ buildings.”

Allora and Yangan will receive new water dispensing stations, allowing council to better manage allocations of the precious resource.

The Leyburn Water Auxiliary Treatment station’s bore will be replaced with new infrastructure.

Up to 10 community halls will have the opportunity to use funding for building upgrades.

“One of the great things about Drought Communities Program Extension is that funds are driven down into local groups who have a say in which local is contracted to make the upgrades. When community groups make these informed decisions, they are justifying projects that are worthwhile for that sports club or association to continue and thrive,” Mr Littleproud said.

“By providing simple access to water saving devices, building modern facilities and implementing strategies to get water to those who need it most, the Southern Downs community is proving it knows how to get on top of drought.”

“Drought certainly impacts on how we manage our businesses and personal lives, but it does not have to change how we get involved and support local groups and sports associations.”

Drought Communities Programme funding projects in the Southern Downs:

- Water Carting Project: \$150,000
- Leyburn Auxiliary Water Treatment: \$200,000
- Water Dispensing Stations: \$200,000
- Community Hall Upgrades: \$250,000
- Water Saving Devices for Community Buildings: \$200,000

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**Media Contact:**

Martin Volz

M: 0475 160 465

E: [martin.volz@aph.gov.au](mailto:martin.volz@aph.gov.au)

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