



## David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

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# Media Statement

February 20, 2019

### Keeping Aged Care Local, Close to Family and Friends

Maranoa MP David Littleproud has secured \$416,817 in funds, which will be utilised to upgrade facilities and install new equipment at Longreach's RSL Care Pioneers Nursing Home.

The funds were made available from the Aged Care Regional, Rural and Remote Infrastructure Grants initiative - an important part of the Coalition Federal Government's commitment to providing the best quality aged care for senior Australians.

Funding will be used to:

- Install a solar system
- Install security monitoring cameras
- Upgrade smoke detectors, flooring, water tanks and pumps.

"This funding goes a long way to making sure our seniors feel comfortable with upgraded flooring, water tanks, pumps and new smoke detectors," Mr Littleproud said.

Funding through the Coalition Federal Government also means that seniors in rural communities, like Longreach, have the option to live in local aged care residences.

"This funding supports aged care providers to meet the needs of our seniors, without them having to move to a larger town or city to receive care as their needs change," Mr Littleproud said.

Making sure seniors feel comfortable is important not only for the aged care resident but also friends and loved ones.

"Most of all, it is important to try and keep seniors close to their loved ones and friends because keeping that bridge open for social access is important," he said.

"I think it's a tragedy is when our seniors are forced to move away from family, friends and community - and move away from everything they've ever known - to a larger town or city to receive care as their needs change.

"The Coalition Federal Government's funding package for aged care residences goes some way to addressing that challenge and opening up that chance for the elderly to stay, hopefully, much closer to their base of loved ones and family."

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