



The Hon. Greg Hunt MP
Minister for Health

David Littleproud MP
Federal Member for Maranoa

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MEDIA RELEASE

\$750,000 to repurpose Old Blackall Hospital as rural health training centre

The Liberal National Government will invest \$750,000 to conduct a feasibility study that will assess the redevelopment options for the Old Blackall Hospital as a remote clinical training and education hub.

Federal Minister for Health, Greg Hunt said that the study will analyse the needs of locals and what gaps exist in current service delivery as well as engage with industry experts, service providers and local communities.

“Creating opportunities for medical students to study in Blackall and learn about rural health first hand will provide locals in the Bush with highly qualified, highly experienced medical staff in the future,” Minister Hunt said.

“Central Queensland University will undertake the development of the feasibility study and explore what clinical areas the centre can excel in.”

Clinical areas that could operate in the hub include: emergency services, aged care, indigenous health, general practice, child and family health, social and emotional wellbeing, dental services.

Federal Member for Maranoa, David Littleproud said the centre would generate jobs during construction and once completed would bring more specialists to the region.

“Redevelopment of the Blackall Hospital would give an immediate boost to the region which has been hit by drought,” Mr Littleproud said.

“Securing healthcare professionals to tackle mental and physical health issues in the Bush means that locals don’t have to travel to larger centres and can get treatment faster.

“This is a positive investment for the future workforce of rural and remote Queensland, promotes confidence and encourages regional growth,” Mr Littleproud said.

Authorised by Greg Hunt MP, Liberal Party of Australia, Somerville, Victoria.

The Liberal National Government's strong economic management ensures the continued record investment of funding into vital health initiatives including mental health, life-saving medicines, Medicare and hospitals.

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