



## David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

---

# Media Statement

April 23, 2019

### Capitalising on Maranoa's potential: MP David Littleproud

I'm proud to have secured \$4.7 billion in Federal funding over the last 3 years for Maranoa which has simply been about us getting our fair share.

On the Southern Downs I've fought to get its fair share for things such as:

- \$42 million to build Emu Swamp Dam.
- \$4.8 million for the development of a Cold Store facility in Warwick that will protect 630 existing jobs, create 143 new full-time jobs and 138 indirect new full-time jobs and 80 construction jobs.
- Secured funding for the Granite Belt Local Drug Action Team and two counsellors to fight the scourge of drugs; as well as \$1.28 million to improve Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services across Maranoa, including Warwick and Stanthorpe.
- More than \$5 million in aged care facility upgrades in the Southern Downs over the last 3 years.
- Built 35 mobile phone base stations across Maranoa; including Eukey, The Summit, Yangan, Goomburra, and Castle Rock Campground in the Southern Downs region.
- Will deliver by year's end, NBN connectivity across Maranoa.
- \$36.2 million for upgrades on New England Highway, Cunningham Highway and Eight Mile intersection.
- \$50 million for upgrades to the Gore Highway between Toowoomba and Seymour, Vic.
- \$1.49 million for replacement of Palmer Bridge.
- \$1 million for pest and weeds on the Southern Downs to build dog fencing and fighting noxious weeds.

Across Maranoa, as a government, we've increased funding to education by 50% per student and health by 84%.

Families, farmers and business owners are put under immense mental strain because of drought and I will continue to advocate for efficient and accessible mental health care - on top of the \$174 million rollout of local mental health programs.

We now have Medicare funded telehealth appointments and programs for people who want to join in and learn how to manage their mental health online.

As the Minister for Agriculture I'm also proud of the fact I decentralised 100 MDBA jobs out of Canberra with 20 of those going to Goondiwindi.

I'm also proud that I secured nearly \$7 billion for drought and flood relief for farmers and rural communities that support them and brought in new laws to protect farmers from animal activists.

I am proud to say that I am the product of Maranoa - where I've been able to build a career, start a business, travel the world, raise a family and represent its residents as the local Member.

My responsibility as the Member is to make sure more of our next generation have the same opportunity to do that here in Maranoa.

That's why I'm committed to making sure we get our fair share in Canberra.

ENDS