



David Littleproud MP
Federal Member for Maranoa

David Littleproud's submission to the Western Queensland Alliance

3 May 2022

1. Doing more for Queensland and Australia: A Western Queensland productivity partnership, industry and infrastructure investment, and innovation

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INDUSTRY SUPPORT, RECOVERY SUPPORT, TOURISM

I was born, raised and have lived my life in Maranoa.

Over the past 20 years, I've owned a small business in Warwick and forged a career in agribusiness while living and working in towns such as Miles, Nanango, Charleville, St George, Stanthorpe and Warwick.

This has provided me with an acute understanding of the important role small business and agriculture plays in creating jobs and promoting economic growth in Maranoa.

I understand the importance of economic development as a means of building a prosperous future for younger generations and developing the capacity of health, education, agriculture, telecommunications and small business sectors.

In a positive way to grow our region, I will fight to secure more Country University Centres across Maranoa, which means school leavers don't have to go to big cities to go to university.

I'd committed to build on the over \$40 million investment I've already secured for Outback tourism infrastructure like the investments made to rebuild Winton's Waltzing Matilda Centre, Longreach's Stockman's Hall of Fame and QANTAS Founders Museum.

I've secured more of the record \$21 billion dollars announced for regional infrastructure in the budget to make living in Maranoa more attractive and to support our agricultural sector to be more efficient.

Please see below some of the highlights I have already secured in the Western Qld Alliance of Councils areas (which includes Barcaldine, Barcoo, Blackall-Tambo, Diamantina, Longreach, Winton, Balonne, Bulloo, Maranoa, Murweh, Paroo, Quilpie) since being elected in 2016:

- \$15 million for the Stockman's Hall of Fame.
- \$11.3 million for Longreach Qantas Founders Museum upgrade and Luminescent Longreach Lightshow.
- \$8 million to rebuild the Waltzing Matilda Centre after it was destroyed by fire.
- \$632,296 to expand the Australian Age of Dinosaurs Museum.
- \$5 million for the Library Hub in St George.
- \$4.56 million to the Balonne Council under the LRCI Program.
- \$1 million for St George River Foreshore Project.
- \$600,000 for Balonne Aquatic Centre Splash Park.
- \$480,000 for CCTV across the Balonne Shire.
- \$239,000 for Stages 2 and 3 of the Mungindi River Park Upgrade.

- \$160,000 for Bollon Skate Park.
- \$11,000 to establish the Thallon Community Art and Workshop Hub.
- \$1 million to the Balonne Business Improvement Scheme.
- \$600,000 to upgrade the St George CBD.
- \$492,000 for the Dirranbandi Business Improvement Scheme.
- \$499,100 for the Dirranbandi & St George Business Mentoring Project.
- \$447,780 for Thallon Progress Association community and visitor engagement coordinators.
- \$327,000 for business mentoring for the agriculture and horticulture sectors.
- \$82,500 for Dirranbandi Rural Transaction Centre Hub – E-Technology Upgrade and Pilot.
- Over \$8.3 million to the Barcaldine and Blackall-Tambo Councils under the LRCI Program.
- \$750,000 for the Old Blackall Hospital Feasibility Study.
- \$600,000 for Barcaldine Recreation Park Water.
- \$284,358 to upgrade the Aramac and Blackall airstrips.
- \$45,000 for the Tambo Dam Lights to help with a light design to bring the dam to life at night.
- \$8,927 to the Tree of Knowledge Development Committee for the kitchen expansion at Barcaldine’s Australian Workers Heritage Centre.
- \$22.8 million for the Barcaldine Remote Community Solar Farm.
- \$202,755 to support the Barcoo Pastoral Society and Tambo Stock Show.
- \$50,000 Aramac Showground roads upgrades.
- \$50,000 for the Barcaldine Showground Sound project.
- \$20,220 to support the Alpha Show Society, Muttaborra Stock Show Society and the Barcaldine Pastoral, Agricultural and Horticultural Society.
- \$20,000 for Blackall-Tambo Mother of Millions Weed Control.
- \$126,500 to Red Ridge Interior Qld to restart investment.
- \$35,000 to support the Radio Theatre’s recovery.
- \$20,000 to Red Ridge Interior Qld for Blackall’s Lost Art Community Craft Centre.
- \$18,079 to upgrade the Alpha Jockey Club.
- Secured critical protections for our towns from the purchase of land for carbon farming.
- \$1.8 million to Quilpie Shire for industry support.
- \$1.1 million to upgrade the Jundah Roadhouse/ General Store and the Rec Reserve.
- \$980,000 to the Barcoo Shire for industry support.
- \$530,513 in Reserves fencing projects in Windorah, Jundah & Stonehenge.
- \$150,000 to the Diamantina Shire for industry support.
- \$25.1 million for Barcoo Shire in recovery support.
- \$12 million for Diamantina Shire in recovery support.
- \$7.1 million for Quilpie Shire in recovery support.
- \$1.6 million for Bulloo Shire in recovery support.
- \$382,113 for Barcoo Under Water & Sewerage Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding.
- \$3.63 million for Eromanga Natural History Museum.
- \$1.4 million for the Birdsville Short-Stay Accommodation Village Upgrade project.
- \$98,500 to upgrade Quilpie’s Driver Reviver Site.
- \$93,238 for Quilpie’s Indigenous Advancement Strategy.
- \$41,250 to Windorah’s Rodeo Club.
- \$31,466 to the Quilpie Cultural Society.
- \$40.4 million for pests and wild dog exclusion fences across Maranoa.
- \$5 million to combat Prickly Acacia in Longreach and Winton.
- \$781,281 to upgrade the Winton Showground stables.
- \$719,548 to upgrade the Longreach Saleyards and \$264,747 to upgrade the Winton Saleyards.
- \$157,884 for the Longreach Show Society.

- \$75,000 for Hotels & Motels in Longreach and Winton to undergo energy saving upgrades.
- \$21,250 to the North Gregory Hotel for “Bringing the Bush Back to Life.”
- \$49.43 million in disaster assistance payments to Winton.
- \$39.6 million in disaster assistance payments to Longreach.
- \$296,456 for a Monsoon Trough Community Development Officer at Winton.
- \$139,125 Development of Isisford Historical Museum.
- \$45,000 for the Outback Festival.
- \$10.3 million to the Maranoa Regional Council under the LRCI Program.
- \$1.3 million for the Country Universities Centre in Roma.
- \$194,420 to build a multi-purpose hall and upgrades for the Roughlie Community Centre.
- \$147,000 to upgrade the Roma Men’s Shed.
- \$85,261 for bicycle and walking paths in Yuleba.
- \$20,000 to the Roma RSL Sub-Branch to preserve Maranoa’s wartime heritage.
- \$8,410 for upgrades to the Yuleba and District Bowls Club.
- \$10 million for the University of Southern Queensland’s Drought & Innovation Hub, with a node based in Roma.
- \$3.96 million for the Roma Saleyards Precinct Development Project.
- \$624,360 in Regional Agricultural Show Development Grants for the Miles and Mitchell Show Societies.
- \$379,656 for Remote Airstrip Upgrades in Maranoa local government area.
- \$6.7 million to the Maranoa region to help with recovery from disasters.
- \$405,000 to combat pests and weed impacts during drought in Maranoa local government area.
- \$68,688 to support the Roma Show Society.
- \$950,000 for the construction of the new Injune Museum building.
- \$27,000 to Mitchell’s Booringa Action Group for the Booringa Fire and Water: Projection Artwork and Development.
- \$7,000 to support the Injune Centenary event.
- \$810,770 to Cunnamulla & District Show Society for Showgrounds, Function Centre & electrical upgrades.
- \$500,000 for the Qld Sheep Production Program.
- \$95,870 for energy efficiency upgrades at the Hotel Coronas Charleville, Fox Trap Cooladdi, Club Boutique Hotel Cunnamulla & Hotel Cunnamulla.
- Secured critical protections for our towns from the purchase of land for carbon farming.
- \$3.5 million for the Murweh Council under the Drought Communities Programme and Extension.
- \$3.5 million for the Paroo Council under the Drought Communities Programme and Extension.
- \$8.75 million to the Murweh Council and the Paroo Council under the LRCI Program.
- \$7.94 million for Charleville’s Outback Museum of Australia and upgrade other tourism landmarks in the Mulga.
- \$4.9 million for Cunnamulla’s Warrego River Walk and artesian hot springs project.
- \$943,474 for Cunnamulla Pontoon, Jetty and Warrego Boat Cruises Project.
- \$498,691 for upgrades to the Charleville Cosmos Centre.
- \$177,910 for the ‘Smiley’ Museum at Augathella.
- \$250,000 to the Morven Tourist Precinct Development.

2. Move to more, in Western Queensland: Re-invigorating regionalisation and supporting regional housing solutions

COMMUNITY SUPPORT, HEALTH & AGED CARE, HOUSING, BUILDING OUR REGION, CHILD CARE

I am committed to supporting families and small business. By cutting the fuel excise for six months, more than 79,000 in Maranoa will save 22 cents per litre on petrol to help the household budget. More than 53,000 people in Maranoa saved \$2745 thanks to tax cuts.

Pensioners, welfare recipients, veterans and concession cardholders will receive a one-off \$250 payment to help relieve costs. This government has also made significant changes to the Child Care Subsidy to help parents enter the workforce.

The Coalition Federal Government has created a \$1 billion fund to partner with developers to help encourage the development of more housing stock despite state governments being responsible for it. Some states like Victoria have done work solving this crisis with a \$5 billion investment in social housing and we'd encourage the Queensland government to follow suit.

In health, the Coalition Government has spent a record amount to have higher bulk billing rates than the last Rudd Labor government – meaning people are seeing their GP for free – and we've dispensed more than 2.2 million free or subsidised medicines across Maranoa.

The Coalition has made changes to the Child Care Subsidy means families – with two or more children aged under five in care – will save on average \$2260 a year.

This government has invested over \$6.5 billion for more services to support mental health. And, to attract more health professionals to work in and grow rural communities, we'll reduce university debts for doctors and nurses who work in Maranoa. The Federal Government will also support Heart of Australia Service with another \$17 million to provide cardiac services in regional Australia.

Please see below some of the highlights I have already secured in the Western Qld Alliance of Councils areas (which includes Barcaldine, Barcoo, Blackall-Tambo, Diamantina, Longreach, Winton, Balonne, Bulloo, Maranoa, Murweh, Paroo, Quilpie) since being elected in 2016:

- \$875,000 for the Dirranbandi River & Rail Precinct.
- \$737,082 for two Country Universities Centre sites in St George and Dirranbandi.
- \$500,000 for St George Indigenous Languages and Cultural Immersion Project.
- \$334,768 for St George Golf Club, STEPS Group Australia and Balonne Events Strategy.
- \$1.97 million to expand allied health student training opportunities in St George with placements through Goondir Health Services.
- \$1.4 million for Stages 1 & 2 of St George Community Well Being Centre.
- Close to \$1 billion to secure the future of the Royal Flying Doctor Service.
- \$1.8 million for Barcaldine Aged Care Residential Village project.
- \$600,000 to Churches of Christ's Barcoo Living Multipurpose Service to strengthen their resident care service and create a safer and more comfortable environment for residents.
- Changes to the Child Care Subsidy means families – with two or more children aged under five in care – will save on average \$2,260 a year.
- \$495,000 for the Barcaldine Early Years Service.
- \$495,000 for Blackall Early Years Service.
- \$450,000 to the Tambo Child Care Centre.
- Close to \$1 billion to secure the future of the Royal Flying Doctor Service.
- \$1.7 million to construct four new ground-level aged care units and a recreation/health centre central hub for Bulloo's seniors.
- \$707,763 to upgrade Quilpie's Gyrica Gardens Aged Care Centre.
- \$1.7 million to upgrade local community sport facilities across Diamantina.
- \$679,474 for the Thargomindah Median Strip Garden Upgrade and Memorial Park Enhancement.
- \$408,954 each for Microgrids for Barcoo, Bulloo and Diamantina.

- \$53,958 to upgrade Mulga Mates Centre's playground.
- \$750,000 for the Longreach Childcare Centre.
- \$400,000 to the Longreach & District Rural In- Home Care Program.
- \$300,000 to support Winton's Little Swaggies.
- \$300,000 for Winton's Youth Centre Recovery Centre and Assembly Centre.
- \$263,810 to Uniting Church Longreach for child care support.
- \$120,000 to support Longreach Outside School. Hours Care.
- Over \$8.9 million to the Longreach & Winton Councils under the LRCI Program.
- \$352,251 for the Longreach Jockey Club upgrade.
- \$152,874 for UCA Hall, Light-Up Longreach, Longreach High School P&C Assn & Outback Watersports Club.
- \$117,986 for facilities upgrade at Kiama Park Yaraka.
- \$55,000 to restore Winton's Royal Theatre.
- Close to \$1 billion to secure the future of the Royal Flying Doctor Service.
- \$3.7 million to upgrade and build six new self-contained units at Pinaroo Roma.
- \$1.53 million for new Headspace centre and youth mental health programs in Roma.
- \$1 million to build a fully-functional Life Flight aeromedical base at the Roma airport.
- \$437,377 for Injune Kindergarten Association.
- \$300,000 for Surat Early Childhood Education Centre.
- \$300,000 for Mitchell Early Childhood Education Centre.
- \$50,000 to Mitchell's St Patrick's School Parents and Friends Association to help upgrade the school's playground.
- Close to \$1 billion to secure the future of the Royal Flying Doctor Service.
- \$2.2 million for a purpose-built medical training facility in Charleville.
- \$710,000 to the Cunnamulla Aboriginal Corporation's Chronic Disease and Wellbeing Centre.
- \$200,000 for the Augathella Aged Care Residence Upgrade.
- \$60,000 for the Charleville Community Men's Shed.
- Secured a new local ABC studio in Charleville creating 2 full time jobs.
- \$388,000 to support the Charleville Early Learning Centre.
- \$350,000 to upgrade the Charleville Art Centre Gallery Upgrade.
- \$309,000 to turn Cunnamulla's railway station into a theatre: Cunnamulla, All Aboard!
- \$263,187 for the Children & Parent Support Program in Charleville.

3. Growing more for you: Reducing green and red tape, caring for the environment, and providing safe & secure water supplies

DROUGHT SUPPORT, AGRICULTURE

With respect to climate change, the Coalition's net zero plan is sensible and achievable, protecting traditional jobs while creating new clean energy jobs.

I'm proud as Agriculture Minister to have created a world first Biodiversity Stewardship program that will pay farmers not just for carbon abatement but biodiversity. The budget introduced tax incentives for farmers to participate worth nearly \$100m that will go back to farmers and regional communities.

This government has also introduced protections within this program so that productive agricultural land is not locked up to protect regional communities.

This also means real results in your region, including:

- I created a \$5 billion Future Drought Fund

- Drought Communities Programme grants to provide support, boost local employment and help with community needs.
 - \$3.5 million to Balonne Shire Council.
 - \$1 million to combat the impacts of pests and weeds during drought.
 - \$3.5 million for Barcaldine Drought Communities Programme and Extension.
 - \$3.5 million for Blackall-Tambo Drought Communities Programme and Extension.
 - \$400,000 to combat pest and weed impacts during the drought in Barcaldine.
 - \$3.5 million to Murweh Shire Council.
 - \$3.5 million to Paroo Shire Council.
 - \$3.5 million Longreach Regional Council.
 - \$3.5 million Winton Shire Council.
- \$5 million for the St George Fish Hatchery.
- \$6.6 million for Fish Friendly Water Extraction Project to install pump screens at river off-takes to protect fish populations.
- \$5 million for Wild Dog Exclusion Fencing.
- \$744,746 for established pests, animals and weed management pipeline.
- \$34.4 million in disaster payments to Barcaldine.
- \$18.9 million in disaster payments to Blackall- Tambo.
- \$76,500 for GroWQ to deliver drought and climate programs in Longreach, Isisford, Yaraka, Ilfracombe and delivery of Council’s four “in the bush” community workshops in Longreach.

4. Transporting more for you: Investing in our regional roads and rail

ROADS & INFRASTRUCTURE

If re-elected, I’ll build on the hundreds of millions of dollars the Coalition has invested to build and upgrade road networks such as our investment in the Outback Way, the Capricornia Highway and Landsborough Highway, will be critical.

Please see below some of the highlights I have already secured in the Western Qld Alliance of Councils areas (which includes Barcaldine, Barcoo, Blackall-Tambo, Diamantina, Longreach, Winton, Balonne, Bulloo, Maranoa, Murweh, Paroo, Quilpie) since being elected in 2016:

- \$33.6 million in Financial Assistance Grants to the Balonne Council for local priorities.
- \$9.98 million to upgrade the Carnarvon Highway.
- \$6.8 million in Roads to Recovery Program rollout across the Balonne region.
- \$2.5 million for the Barwon Highway upgrade, Weengallon.
- \$667,460 to upgrade the Hebel Goodooga Road.
- \$8 million for road safety upgrades on the Barcaldine–Aramac Road.
- \$6.97 million for the Clermont-Alpha Road under Northern Australia Beef Roads Program.
- \$7 million for Blackall–Tambo’s Roads of Strategic Importance.
- \$7.6 million for the Blackall–Jericho Rd upgrade
- \$950,000 under the Heavy Vehicle Safety Productivity Program for Blackall Saleyards Alternative Heavy Vehicle Route.
- \$18.8 million to Barcoo, Bullo, Diamantina & Quilpie Shires under the Roads to Recovery Program.
- Over \$11.4 million to the Barcoo, Bullo, Diamantina and Quilpie Shires under the LRCI Program.
- \$3.2 million to the Diamantina Shire under the Qld Road Safety Program.
- \$3 million to upgrade the Birdsville Developmental Road.
- \$1.65 million to upgrade the Bulloo Developmental Road.
- \$678 million for the Outback Way.
- \$16.2 million for the Winton to Jundah Road.

- \$31.5 million to upgrade the Morven to Kynuna section of the Landsborough Highway.
- \$9.02 million in safety upgrades including pave and seal the Richmond-Winton Road.
- \$7.1 million in Roads to Recovery funding for Longreach and \$6.4 million for Winton.
- \$627,967 to fix Black Spots on the Landsborough Hwy, Longreach Muttaborra Road and Longreach Tocal Road.
- \$508 million to upgrade the Warrego Highway.
- \$15.4 million under Roads to Recovery in Maranoa Regional Council.
- \$14.27 million in upgrades to the Carnarvon Highway.
- \$11.68 million under the Queensland Road Safety Program in Maranoa Regional Council.
- \$5.2 million to upgrade the region's network under Roads of Strategic Importance in Maranoa Regional Council.
- \$4.8 million to upgrade the Arcadia Valley Road.
- \$75.2 million in Financial Assistance Grants to the Murweh Council and the Paroo Council for local priorities.
- \$14.46 million to Murweh Council and Paroo Council to upgrade local roads under Roads to Recovery.
- \$10 million Landsborough Hwy – Morven to Kynuna Upgrade.
- \$650,000 for the Cunnamulla Roads Maintenance Project.
- \$290,257 to upgrade Jobs Gate Road.
- \$4.1 million to construct the Morven Freight Rail Hub.

AIRSTRIP UPGRADES:

- \$1.78 million to upgrade the Quilpie airstrip.
- \$986,967 for Thargomindah, Epsilon Station, Hungerford, Naryilco and Oriento's Station.
- \$252,500 for Quilpie and Durham Downs.
- \$177,000 to Birdsville.
- \$86,057 to upgrade the Jundah Aerodrome Building.
- \$54,000 for Adavale.
- \$35,000 for Stonehenge, Jundah and Windorah.
- \$577,223 to upgrade the Cunnamulla, Augathella and Yowah airstrips.

5. Connecting to you: Backing our digital connectivity blueprint and supporting digital by default

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

I fight for better and more equitable telecommunications to save lives, grow small business and support education. I've already secured 59 new mobile phone black spot towers across Maranoa including towers at Yaraka and on the Landsborough Highway, between Winton and Cloncurry.

A Coalition Federal Government will also invest \$1.3 billion to increase regional mobile coverage for NBN Co to upgrade the entire fixed wireless network benefitting over 40,000 premises across Maranoa.

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- \$1.3 billion to increase regional mobile coverage and for NBN Co to upgrade the entire fixed wireless network benefitting over 40,000 premises across Maranoa.
- \$1.4 million for 4 new towers to improve access to fixed wireless internet in Bollon.

- 3 new mobile phone towers located in the Balonne region to target black spots on Castlereagh Highway at Blue Lagoon, Bundoran Road and St George Cotton Shed.
- \$1 million for Balonne Shire Digital Connectivity Project (Stages 3 & 4) Dirranbandi and St George.
- \$3.18 million for 4 new towers across the Blackall-Tambo region to improve the fixed wireless network and to upgrade NBN access from Skymuster to FTTP in Alpha.
- Two new mobile phone towers in Barcaldine region to target black spots on the Capricorn Highway, between Alpha and Willows and the Landsborough Highway, Avoca Station.
- One new mobile phone tower on the Landsborough Highway, between Blackall and Tambo.
- \$5.96 million for 552km of optic fibre cable to link Windorah, Birdsville, Bedourie, Jundah and Stonehenge.
- \$786,916 for a new Telstra 4G mobile base station east of Stonehenge and to improve the fixed wireless network along the Adventure Way and Great Inland Way.
- 5 new mobile phone towers in the Bulloo Shire to target black spots at Hungerford, Cunnamulla to Thargomindah, Dynevor Downs, East Thargomindah and Thargomindah town.
- 4 new mobile phone towers in the Quilpie Shire to target black spots at Adavale, Diamantina Developmental Road, Landsborough Highway and Eromanga.
- 2 new mobile phone towers built at Yaraka and on the Landsborough Hwy, east of Longreach.
- \$800,000 Winton Broadband and Telecommunications Resilience upgrade.
- \$495,577 new Telstra base station at Olio under the Telecommunications and Energy Improvement Grants.
- \$2.5 million to upgrade NBN access in Surat from Skymuster to FTTP and improve fixed wireless network coverage to the south of Roma.
- 4 new mobile phone towers to target black spots at Jackson, Carnarvon Hwy at Brucedale, Dunkeld and Teelba State School.
- \$3.95 million to upgrade NBN access to FTTP in Augathella and Morven and 3 new towers to improve connectivity along the Adventure Way and Great Inland Way.
- 7 new mobile phone towers in Paroo to target black spots at Eulo (x2), Waihora, Cunnamulla to Thargomindah, along the Bullo Developmental Rd, along the Mitchell Hwy at Mirrabooka and Nardoo.
- 2 new mobile phone towers in Murweh to target black spots along the Landsborough Hwy and the Warrego Hwy (between Morven and Charleville).

ENDS

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