



# Llew O'BRIEN

## FEDERAL MEMBER FOR WIDE BAY

 **STRONG REPRESENTATION  
DELIVERS RESULTS**

## Budget 2018/19 Community Newsletter

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## Budget 2018 delivers for Wide Bay

**FIXING THE BRUCE:** Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack and Llew O'Brien commit \$800 million to construct the Bruce Highway, Cooroy to Curra Section D project.

### Dear Resident,

The Turnbull-McCormack Government's 2018 Budget will help to unlock the potential of Wide Bay, building new roads, including the life-saving \$800 million Bruce Highway Cooroy to Curra Section D project, and more than \$190 million for other road upgrades; create more than 300 local jobs with \$14 million invested through the Regional Jobs and Investment program; deliver more aged care services, and fund hospitals, schools, councils, and community services.

More than 52,200 workers in Wide Bay will be up to \$530 better off per year with tax relief for low and middle income earners, while 17,574 local businesses will benefit from legislated tax cuts and the \$20,000 instant asset write-off.

Local projects, events and community organisations will help build stronger Wide Bay

communities, with \$1.6 million provided through the Building Better Regions Fund.

The Coalition Government is increasing funding to Queensland hospitals by \$29.5 billion by 2024-25, a 34 percent increase - and providing for the elderly with 14,000 additional home care packages and 13,500 new residential places.

This Budget guarantees funding of the National Disability and Insurance Scheme, helping 3,969 people and their families in Wide Bay; as well as giving a substantial boost to Government and Independent Schools, with funding rising by \$35.7 million.

The 2018 Budget ensures the Government lives within its means, with a forecast return to budget balance in 2019-20, and a projected surplus of \$11 billion in 2020-21.

For more details on how your family will benefit, turn to pages 4-5.

- Llew O'Brien

### Working for Wide Bay



**MARYBOROUGH:** Llew welcomed students from St Mary's College to Parliament House, Canberra



**GYMPIE:** Gympie South State School students gave Llew a warm welcome at a flag presentation





**KILKIVAN:** Llew was proud to support the Kilkivan Great Horse Ride



**NOOSA:** Director of Community Services Alan "Fox" Rogers, Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack, Noosa Mayor Tony Wellington and Llew O'Brien inspect Noosa Council's Digital Hub at Peregian Beach

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## Grant to build a stronger South Burnett

A \$468,000 grant will help people bounce back after being affected by natural disasters in South Burnett, with an innovative program delivered by the Burnett Inland Economic Development Organisation (BIEDO).

The project, *Inclusive CommuniTIES - Stronger Together*, received funding under the Strong and Resilient Communities grants program, which will be used to develop resources, deliver workshops and run project activities to help people who are suffering adverse conditions, as well as improving their social inclusion and economic welfare.

## Budget boost to help the aged

The 2018-19 Budget delivers ground-breaking reforms for aged care, increasing high-level home care packages by 86 percent to 74,000 over the next five years, plus 13,500 extra residential places, and more mental health funding for older Australians.

"This delivers more choices and more support for people as they age, and allows them to enjoy living at home for longer while getting the care they deserve," Federal Member for Wide Bay Llew O'Brien said.

"As the high care packages are rolled out, people waiting for a level 3 or 4 home care package will receive their package much quicker, which frees up packages at the lower levels.

"We are also making it easier to use MyAged Care, and the new Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission will ensure older Australians receive the best possible care.

The 2018-19 Budget also provides \$60 million for capital investment, and aged care providers in regional Australia will receive \$40 million for urgent building and maintenance works.



Federal Member for Wide Bay Llew O'Brien and Minister for Aged Care Ken Wyatt met with aged care service providers and residents to discuss the Wide Bay's needs, which include more aged care places and improved access to home care.

## \$14.6 MILLION PACKAGE DELIVERS 300+ JOBS

More than 300 new local jobs are being created with a \$14.6 million investment in businesses, through the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Jobs and Investment Package.

"The Coalition Government is working in partnership with local businesses to strengthen regional areas including Wide Bay, by providing matching funds to help them expand to deliver more jobs. These projects in Maryborough, Gympie, Murgon and Rainbow Beach will drive economic growth and provide long-term sustainable employment," Federal Member for Wide Bay Llew O'Brien said.

### GROWING JOBS FOR GYMPIE

Nolan Meats received nearly \$5 million to double the size of its meat processing facilities, creating 45 construction jobs and a further 200 permanent jobs once the \$10 million project is complete.

Suncoast Gold Macadamias at Glanmire received \$270,000 for two projects to increase factory throughput with state-of-the-art processing technology and data management systems.

Tourism operators in Rainbow Beach will generate jobs with a \$10,000 grant to provide skills and training on increasing visitor numbers and maximising opportunities in domestic and international tourism markets.



### BEEFING UP MURGON BUSINESS

High-quality cattle hide producer Teys Australia will receive \$267,406 under the Regional Jobs and Investment Package program to put towards a \$567,000 expansion plan.

The plant currently produces about 20,000 hides a week, and the expansion will increase production by about 20 percent, creating up to 15 full-time jobs and securing Teys' position in domestic and overseas markets.



### MARYBOROUGH SAWMILL BRANCHING OUT

A \$1.75 million federal investment at Dale and Meyers sawmill will help generate 30 jobs, with an innovative new product line of laminated timber products made from scrap materials.

This will create new jobs and improve the mill's sustainability, allowing it to expand into exciting new markets.



Llew O'Brien and Small Business Minister Craig Laundry meet with members of Tourism Noosa.

Llew recently announced \$155,920 to upgrade Noosa's CCTV Network.

TOURISM  
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## \$800 million to save lives on Bruce Hwy

An \$800 million commitment by the Coalition Government will save lives in Wide Bay, with funding confirmed in the 2018 Budget for the Cooroy to Curra Section D upgrade.

Federal Member for Wide Bay Llew O'Brien advocated passionately to have the vital stretch of highway fast-tracked, and said the funding commitment would prevent countless tragedies, as well as opening up regional Queensland for new tourism and economic growth opportunities.

"As Member for Wide Bay, and in my former career as a road crash investigator, I have seen the devastating impact of serious accidents between Cooroy and Curra," Mr O'Brien said.

"I have worked closely with families,

emergency service workers, media, local councils, road safety groups, and the Wide Bay community, taking their concerns to our Government to highlight how vital this project is.

Section D will provide a new 26-kilometre, four-lane realignment of the highway around Gympie, completing the final link in the 62-kilometre upgrade of the Bruce Highway between Cooroy and Curra.

Construction is expected to start before the end of the year and will take approximately three years to complete.

The project will be managed by the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads.

The upgrade will eliminate eight sets of traffic lights between Maryborough and Cooroy, help flood-proof the road, ease traffic congestion in Gympie, and improve access to the Cooloola Coast, Brisbane and beyond.

## Local problem, Federal issue? Ask Llew...

While the bricks and mortar of my office is located in Maryborough, my mobile office is regularly on the road and available to meet with people in local communities.

If you have any concerns about a matter that is controlled by the Federal Government, such as Centrelink, Veterans' Affairs, Taxation, or Immigration, please make an appointment to meet me at one of the locations listed below.

### Monday, 23 July

Pomona Community House, 10.00am

Cooroy Community Hall, 11.30am

Tewantin Council Office, 2.00pm

### Tuesday, 24 July

Imbil RSL, 9.00am

Gympie Council Office, 11.00am

Curra Country Club, 3.00pm

### Wednesday, 25 July

Tin Can Bay RSL, 9.00am

Cooloola Cove Veterans' Hall, 11.00am

Rainbow Beach Community Hall, 1.30pm

### Thursday, 26 July

Murgon Council Office, 10.00am

Goomeri SES Office, 12.00pm

Kilkivan Council Office, 1.30pm

Widgee Community Hall, 3.00pm

**For an appointment please contact:**  
**4121 2936 or 1300 301 968**  
**[www.llewobrien.com.au](http://www.llewobrien.com.au)**

## Building a safer Bruce Highway through Wide Bay is a top priority for Llew O'Brien and the Coalition Government.

### The Budget provides funds to:

**\$11.2m**

upgrade the intersection of the Wide Bay and Bruce Highways

**\$82.4m**

upgrade the highway at Aldershot around Saltwater Creek

**\$85.6m**

improve flood immunity along the highway at Tiara

**\$13.3m**

new overtaking lanes at Tinana

## Two new overtaking lanes for Bruce Highway at Tinana

Detailed designs are nearly complete for new northbound and southbound overtaking lanes on the Bruce Highway at Tinana.

The \$13.32 million project is fully funded by the Australian Government and will provide safer overtaking opportunities and improve highway traffic flow.

"These overtaking lanes will improve the safety, speed and efficiency of the highway by giving drivers the chance to overtake slow-moving vehicles safely," Federal Member for Wide Bay Llew O'Brien said.

## \$6.3 million road upgrades in Wide Bay

Local roads across Wide Bay will be smoother and safer with more than \$6.3 million Coalition Government funding for upgrades through the Roads to Recovery program.

Fraser Coast Regional Council will receive more than \$1.6 million for road repairs in 2018-19; Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council will receive \$254,143 and \$1.45 million for the South Burnett Regional Council.

Noosa Council has been allocated \$1,410,744 for pavement rehabilitation between the intersection of Mary Street and Weyba Road towards the intersection of Noosa Drive and Leslie Drive.

Gympie Regional Council will get \$67,783 in this year's Budget, on top of almost \$4.2 million provided in recent rounds of the Roads to Recovery program, which funded major works at Gympie, Glanmire, Chatsworth and Curra.





# Llew O'Brien and the Federal Liberal Nationals Government are delivering more than \$1.4 billion to Wide Bay.

Working for  
Wide Bay

## Fraser Coast Regional Area - Funding Highlights

- ✓ \$30,400,000 – Reconstruction of **Tinana Interchange**, Bruce Highway
- ✓ \$13,513 – **Legacy Fraser Coast & Country Burnett**, Building Excellence in Support & Training (BEST)
- ✓ \$370,000 – **Fraser Coast Regional Council**, Betterment Fund, Gundiah
- ✓ \$395,000 – Fraser Coast Regional Council, **Portside Cultural Precinct Maryborough**
- ✓ \$13,185 – Contribution towards technology upgrade at **Peter Pan Literacy Club, Maryborough**
- ✓ \$1,600,000 – Bruce Highway Resurfacing at **Aldershot**
- ✓ \$325,000 – River Terrace extension, **Brolga Theatre**
- ✓ \$3,832,854 – **Fraser Coast Regional Council**, Roads to Recovery Program 2016/17
- ✓ \$6,626,148 – **Fraser Coast Regional Council**, Financial Assistance Grants 2016/17
- ✓ \$3,320,308 – **Fraser Coast Regional Council**, Roads to Recovery Program 2017/18
- ✓ \$6,990,250 – **Fraser Coast Regional Council**, Financial Assistance Grants 2017/18
- ✓ \$191,000 – Blackspot funding, **Churchill Street, Maryborough**
- ✓ \$13,240,000 – **Tiaro Safety Works** on Bruce Highway
- ✓ \$300,000 – Indigenous drug and alcohol rehabilitation program, **Maryborough**
- ✓ \$152,500 – Smart Cities and Suburbs Programme, **Fraser Coast Regional Council**
- ✓ \$13,367 – **Bauple Band Hall**, Stronger Communities Programme
- ✓ \$16,362 – **Wide Bay Motor Complex**
- ✓ \$13,320,000 – **Tinana overtaking lanes**
- ✓ \$5,500 – **Maryborough Military & Colonial Museum**, Armistice Centenary Grants Program
- ✓ \$11,170 – **Maryborough RSL Sub-Branch**, RSL Military Mural Project
- ✓ \$1,175,000 – **Dale & Meyers Maryborough**, job creation and expansion project, Wide Bay Burnett Jobs Investment Package
- ✓ \$60,000 – **Village Kids Childcare Maryborough**, STEM's ELSA pilot program
- ✓ \$1,645,002 – **Fraser Coast Regional Council**, Roads to Recovery Program 2018/19
- ✓ \$725,000 – to protect and enhance **Fraser Island**
- ✓ Mobile phone base stations – **Maryborough-Biggenden Road; Maaroom; Yerra; Poona**

## South Burnett Regional Council Area - Funding Highlights

- ✓ \$6,849,934 – Financial Assistance Grants 2016/17, **South Burnett Regional Council**
- ✓ \$2,638,102 – **South Burnett Regional Council**, Roads to Recovery Program 2016/17
- ✓ \$20,000 – Contribution towards new playground, **Murgon**
- ✓ \$25,000 – Shed extension - **Murgon Men's Shed**
- ✓ \$396,698 – Safer Communities, **Murgon CBD CCTV cameras and security lighting**
- ✓ \$6,730,714 – Financial Assistance Grants 2017/18, **South Burnett Regional Council**
- ✓ \$2,285,323 – **South Burnett Regional Council**, Roads to Recovery Program 2017/18
- ✓ \$2,500 – **Queensland Dairy and Heritage Museum**, Stronger Communities Programme
- ✓ \$9,917 – **Graham House Community Centre Murgon**, Stronger Communities Programme
- ✓ \$19,307 – **South Burnett PCYC**, Murgon Music Muster
- ✓ \$13,662 – **Murgon Lions Club** food van fit out
- ✓ \$468,000 – **Burnett Inland Economic Development Organisation**, Murgon, Strong and Resilient Communities
- ✓ \$1,456,301 – **South Burnett Regional Council**, Roads to Recovery 2018/19
- ✓ Mobile phone base stations – **Tansey; Windera**

## Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council Area - Funding Highlights

- ✓ \$64,080 – **Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council**, Roads to Recovery Program 2016/17
- ✓ \$581,102 – Financial Assistance Grants 2016/17, **Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council**
- ✓ \$237,000 – Indigenous Advancement Strategy - **Cherbourg Ration Shed Museum**
- ✓ \$12,585 – **Cherbourg Ration Shed Museum**, Community Heritage Grants Program
- ✓ \$618,268 – Financial Assistance Grants 2017/18, **Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council**
- ✓ \$55,510 – **Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council**, Roads to Recovery Program 2017/18
- ✓ \$254,143 – Roads to Recovery Program 2018/19, **Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council**
- ✓ \$3,000 – **Cherbourg Ration Shed Museum**, Boys from Barambah Story, Armistice Centenary Grants Program
- ✓ \$1,025,458 – **Cherbourg-Murgon Reconnect Service**, Reconnect Programme

## Electorate Wide - Funding Highlights

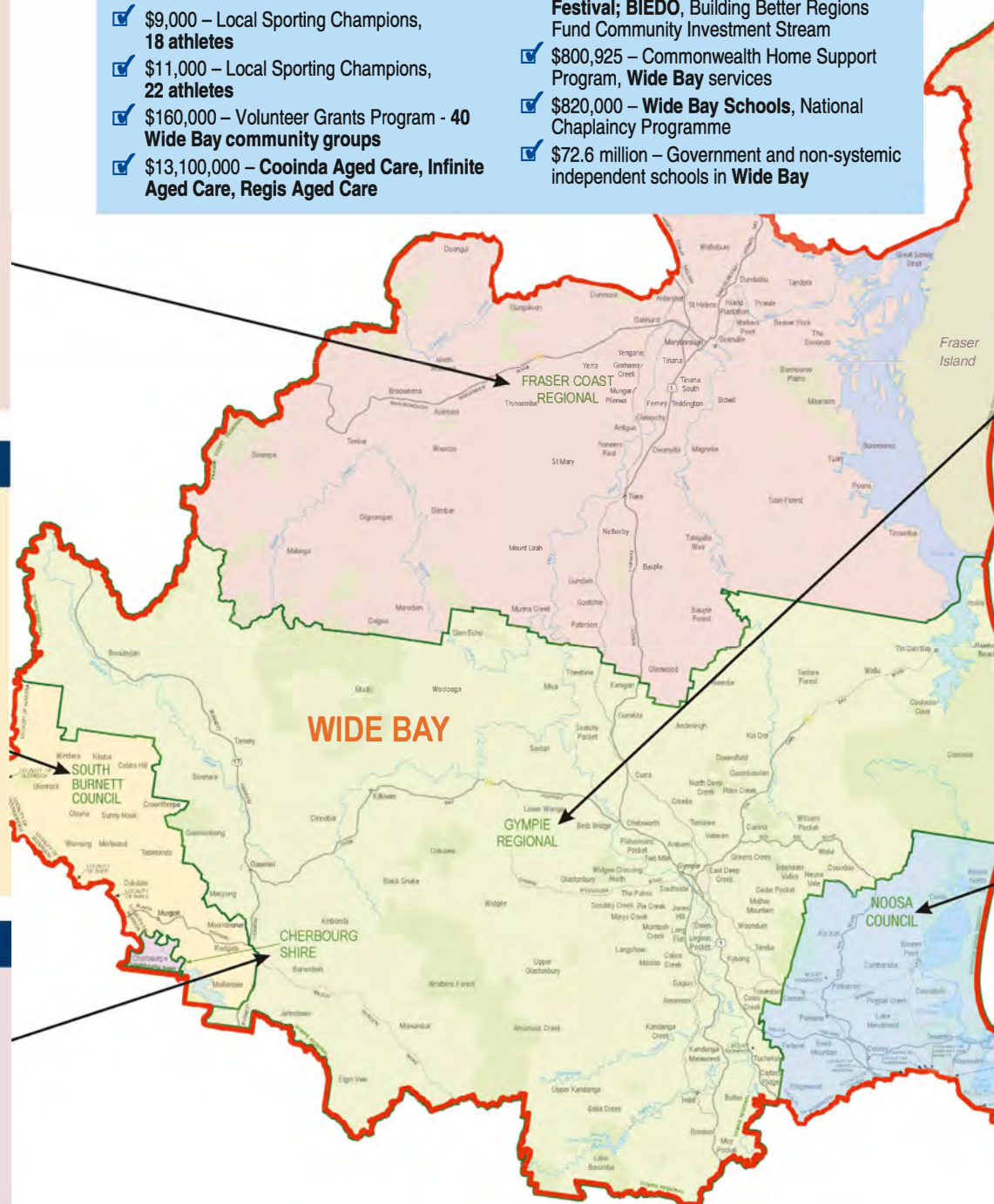
- ✓ \$307,400,000 – **Cooroy to Curra, Section C** four lane upgrade
- ✓ \$52,000,000 – **Cooroy to Curra, Section D** detailed design
- ✓ \$800,000,000 – **Cooroy to Curra, Section D**, construction
- ✓ \$39,000,000 – **Bruce Highway** capacity upgrades
- ✓ \$11,000 – Local Sporting Champions, **22 athletes**
- ✓ \$9,000 – Local Sporting Champions, **18 athletes**
- ✓ \$11,000 – Local Sporting Champions, **22 athletes**
- ✓ \$160,000 – Volunteer Grants Program - **40 Wide Bay community groups**
- ✓ \$13,100,000 – **Cooina Aged Care, Infinite Aged Care, Regis Aged Care**
- ✓ \$10,000 – Local Sporting Champions, **20 athletes**
- ✓ \$10,000 – Local Sporting Champions, **20 athletes**
- ✓ \$6,500 – Local Sporting Champions, **13 athletes**
- ✓ \$200,824 – **Kilkivan Great Horse Ride Festival; Gympie Chamber of Commerce; Noosa Chamber of Commerce; Noosa Council Floating Land 2017; Gympie Rush Festival; BIEDO, Building Better Regions Fund Community Investment Stream**
- ✓ \$800,925 – Commonwealth Home Support Program, **Wide Bay services**
- ✓ \$820,000 – **Wide Bay Schools**, National Chaplaincy Programme
- ✓ \$72.6 million – Government and non-systemic independent schools in **Wide Bay**

## Gympie Regional Council Area- Funding Highlights

- ✓ \$5,000,000 – **Cooina Aged Care** for capital works
- ✓ \$16,590 – Building Excellence in Support & Training (BEST) **Gympie RSL Sub Branch**
- ✓ \$5,020,322 – Financial Assistance Grants 2016/17, **Gympie Regional Council**
- ✓ \$2,171,319 – **Gympie Regional Council**, Roads to Recovery Program 2016/17
- ✓ \$756,595 – Capital Grants Program, **Gympie Flexible Learning Centre**
- ✓ \$535,000 – Capital Grants Program, **Cooloola Christian College**
- ✓ \$245,000 - Capital Grants Program, **Victory College**
- ✓ \$96,750 – Natural Disaster Resilience Program, **Gympie Regional Council**
- ✓ \$68,000 – **Tin Can Bay Men's Shed**, Community Development Grant
- ✓ \$5,188,035 – **Gympie Regional Council**, Financial Assistance Grants 2017/18
- ✓ \$1,880,961 – **Gympie Regional Council**, Roads to Recovery Program 2017/18
- ✓ \$750,000 – Blackspot funding, **Station Road, Gympie**
- ✓ \$3,971 – Saluting Their Service, **Rainbow Beach RSL**
- ✓ \$11,600 – Regional Arts Funding, **Gympie Heart of Gold**
- ✓ \$1,500,000 – **Upper Mary Street Precinct Gympie**, Building Better Regions Fund
- ✓ \$355,000 – Capital Grants Program, **Victory College Gympie**, hospitality centre, classrooms
- ✓ \$34,000 – **Mary Valley Growers Co-operative**
- ✓ \$24,600 – Building Excellence in Support & Training (BEST) for **Tin Can Bay RSL Sub Branch**
- ✓ \$16,362 – **Kilkivan Men's Shed**
- ✓ \$16,362 – **Cooloola Coast Medical Transport**, Stronger Communities Programme
- ✓ \$14,980 – **Little Haven Palliative Care**
- ✓ \$16,362 – **Goomeri & District Show Society**
- ✓ \$5,000 – **Gympie RSL Sub-Branch**, Memorial Lane restoration
- ✓ \$15,000 – **Mary Valley RSL Sub-Branch**, memorial at Kandanga Cemetery
- ✓ \$270,000 – **Suncoast Gold Macadamias Gympie**, Wide Bay Burnett Jobs Investment Package
- ✓ \$10,000 – **Gympie Regional Council, Rainbow Beach Skills Training Tourism Programme**
- ✓ \$4,979,706 – **Nolan Meats Gympie**, job creation and expansion, Wide Bay Burnett Jobs Investment Package
- ✓ \$716,000 – **Gympie headspace service**
- ✓ \$67,783 – **Gympie Regional Council**, Roads to Recovery Program 2018/19
- ✓ \$2,000,000 – **Gympie Regional Council**, sealing section of **Counter Road, Cooloola – Noosa link**
- ✓ Mobile phone base stations – **Glastonbury; Widgee; Woolooga; Wide Bay Highway**

## Noosa Council Area - Funding Highlights

- ✓ \$6,655 – Building Excellence in Support & Training for **Tewantin Noosa RSL Sub Branch**
- ✓ \$1,278,139 – **Noosa Council**, Roads to Recovery Program 2016/17
- ✓ \$2,103,778 – Financial Assistance Grants 2016/17, **Noosa Council**
- ✓ \$400,000 – **Noosa National Park Walking Trail**
- ✓ \$11,352 – Contribution for new building for **Cooroy-Noosa Genealogical & Historical Research Group Inc.**
- ✓ \$20,000 – For new lighting for **Noosa District Rugby Union Club**
- ✓ \$5,160 – Contribution towards new broadcasting equipment for **Noosa District Community FM Radio Assoc Inc.**
- ✓ \$4,000 – National Shed Development Program, **Pomona Men's Shed**
- ✓ \$22,000 – **Noosa Men's Shed** fitout
- ✓ \$20,000 – Contribution towards renovations for **Tait-Duke Cottage at Tewantin**
- ✓ \$2,500 – Veteran & Community Grants Program - **Noosa Sub Branch Vietnam Veterans Association**
- ✓ \$124,798 – **Noosa Council**, Natural Disaster Resilience Program
- ✓ \$2,164,006 – Financial Assistance Grants 2017/18, **Noosa Council**
- ✓ \$1,107,221 – **Noosa Council**, Roads to Recovery Program 2017/18
- ✓ \$500,000 - Accelerating Commercialisation Entrepreneurs' Programme, **TheDocyard Pty Ltd**
- ✓ \$965,644 – Accelerating Commercialisation Entrepreneurs' Programme, **Noosa Eco Marine Holdings**
- ✓ \$663,429 – **Noosa Council**, **Mary River Road Bridge Replacement**
- ✓ \$875,000 – **Noosa Council**, **Old Noosa Road Bridge Replacement**
- ✓ \$922,256 – **Noosa Council**, **Orealla Bridge Upgrade**
- ✓ \$10,330 – **Cooroy Pomona RSL Sub-Branch**, Centenary of Armistice WWI exhibition
- ✓ \$16,362 – **Sunshine Butterflies**
- ✓ \$10,313 – **Sunshine Beach Surf Life Saving Club**, Stronger Communities Programme
- ✓ \$3,181 – **QF5 Noosa Coast Guard**, Stronger Communities Programme
- ✓ \$155,920 – **Noosa Council**, upgrade and extend the Hastings Street CCTV network to include the bus interchange
- ✓ Mobile phone base stations – **Kin Kin; Boreen Point; Cootharaba Road; Pomona-Kin Kin Road**







## BUDGET 2018 UPDATE

## DELIVERING FOR REGIONAL AUSTRALIA

### Our plan for a stronger economy is securing a fair share to build a stronger regional Australia.

Our plan ensures the benefits of stronger economic growth can continue to be secured and shared. It is a plan that will provide tax relief to encourage and reward working Australians, back businesses to invest and create more jobs, guarantee the essential services that Australians rely on and keep Australians safe, all while ensuring the Government lives within its means.

#### Responsible Budget Management

- ✓ A Government that lives within its means
- ✓ Cracking down on tax and welfare fraud
- ✓ Disciplined financial management
- ✓ No longer borrowing to pay for essential services
- ✓ Maintaining the trajectory to projected surplus in 2020-21

#### More jobs

- ✓ Delivering \$75 billion for transport infrastructure
- ✓ Building a stronger and smarter economy
- ✓ Legislating lower taxes for Australian businesses
- ✓ Boosting Australia's exports in the agriculture and defence industries
- ✓ Extending the instant asset write-off for small business

#### Lower, Fairer, Simpler Tax

- ✓ Tax relief to encourage and reward working Australians
- ✓ Tackling bracket creep
- ✓ Immediate relief for low and middle income earners
- ✓ Reducing the cost pressures on households

#### Keeping Australians Safe

- ✓ Continuing Operation Sovereign Borders to combat the threat of people smugglers
- ✓ Strengthening aviation security
- ✓ Managing biosecurity risks to protect our environment, agriculture and tourism industries
- ✓ More support to help our police and security agencies fight crime and prevent terrorism

#### Guaranteeing Essential Services

- ✓ Record funding for hospitals, schools and disability services
- ✓ Lower energy bills
- ✓ A major increase in home care packages to support the choice of older Australians to stay in their homes
- ✓ Continuing to guarantee Medicare funding

#### AN AFFORDABLE, RESPONSIBLE PLAN

From 2018-19

**Lower taxes for low and middle income earners first.**

With over 10 million low and middle income Australians receiving up to \$530 in tax relief for the 2018-19 income year

From 2022-23

**Fairer system by tackling bracket creep.**

Rewarding effort and aspiration by low and middle income earners

From 2024-25

**Simpler system over the medium-term.**

Abolishing the 37 per cent tax bracket and maintaining the highest marginal tax rate at a similar multiple of average earnings



“Llew O'Brien and the Federal Liberal Nationals Government are delivering more than \$1.4 billion to improve infrastructure and services in Wide Bay.”

- Llew O'Brien MP  
Federal Member for Wide Bay



## Banking Royal Commission provides welcome change

Consumers and small businesses in Wide Bay are already benefitting from the newly-established Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA) which offers free, fast and binding dispute resolution in financial matters.

The authority provides a one-stop shop to ensure consumers get a fair deal in resolving disputes with their banks, insurers, super funds and small amount credit providers.

The Coalition Government has also made access to AFCA easier by redefining a small business as any business with fewer than 100 employees. We have also increased the compensation available to small primary producers, up to \$2 million.

Federal Member for Wide Bay Llew O'Brien was instrumental in setting up the Royal Commission, which covers the banking, insurance, superannuation finance and wealth management industries.

"More than 5,000 people have made submissions to the Royal Commission, which will highlight and remedy previous errors made by the financial sector so that the public can once again have faith in these fundamental economic institutions and ensure they meet community expectations," Llew O'Brien said.

The Commissioner, the Honourable Kenneth Madison Hayne AC QC, will provide a final report by February 1, 2019.

## Gympie's headspace set to help youths

A new *headspace* service at Gympie will open its doors in July, offering mental health support for people aged 12 to 24.

The Turnbull-McCormack Government has invested more than \$716,000 through the Central Queensland, Wide Bay, Sunshine Coast Primary Health Network (PHN) to establish the service, which will be operated by United Synergies.

The service will offer mental health, related physical health, alcohol and other drug use services, and social and vocational support.

"Mental health is a serious concern for many of the 5,000 young people living in the Gympie region, so *headspace* will be a critical first step in getting the right support at the right time," Federal Member for Wide Bay Llew O'Brien said.

The Coalition Government is building on record investment in mental health services, recently announcing an additional \$110 million to extend and expand mental health programs for young Australians.



*Gympie's new headspace will operate from Horseshoe Bend, opening in July.*

## Have your say in community survey

The things that matter to you are important to Llew O'Brien as your representative in the Australian Parliament - so he wants to hear your views.

The Wide Bay's Community Survey 2018 was recently delivered to homes across Wide Bay, offering the opportunity to have your say on issues including taxation, cost of living, job, healthcare and more.

The survey's return date has been extended to 20 July, so act now to have your say.

You can call 4121 2936 or 1300 301 968 for a copy of the survey or do it online at [www.llewobrien.com.au/survey](http://www.llewobrien.com.au/survey)



## Available free from my office

Copies of Llew's rainfall calendar with community contacts, '100 ways to praise a child' and times tables posters, growth charts, and age pension guides are available free from his office.

**For your copy, please call  
1300 301 968 or 4121 2936**

## Switching on improved phone services

New and upgraded mobile phone base stations will boost telecommunications at Windera, Tansey, Poona and Wide Bay Highway between Kilkivan and Woollooga.

The Windera and Tansey base stations were funded under round 2 of the Australian Government's Mobile Black Spot Program, while towers at Poona and Wide Bay Highway were funded through a priority round.

Federal Member for Wide Bay Llew O'Brien said the new infrastructure would make a demonstrable improvement to convenience and safety for residents, as well as increasing business opportunities.

"As a former police officer, I know the difference mobile phone coverage makes during emergencies or natural disasters, and these improvements will make these communities safer by ensuring people can call for help when needed," Mr O'Brien said.

"The upgrades will also provide for at least 12 hours of back-up power at each macro base station to ensure mobile coverage is not lost during power outages."