

# Community Directions

## Dumbalk & District Community Plan



# Where are we?



*Lifestyle*



*History*

*Recreation*



*Natural Beauty*



# About us



## Dumbalk & District

Dumbalk is a town in the South Gippsland region of Victoria, Australia. It is in the heart of South Gippsland dairy industry and features lush green pastures most of the year around. It is centred in the Tarwin Valley and it exudes beautiful surrounding views. The word Dumbalk is an Aboriginal word that means winter, frost and rain- hence the excellent production qualities. The township features a local store and cafe, a farming hardware store, commercial nursery, sign writer, sheet metal business, MDU Football/Netball Club, MDU Cricket Club and school bus transport to a variety of nearby schools. Recreational activities include; local camp drafts, football, netball, cricket, card playing, indoor recreational games, craft and regular dances in the town hall. Dumbalk is renowned for one of the best local halls in the South Gippsland area. A trip to the Dumbalk must include one of the many scenic drives in the surrounding area. (Wikipedia)

Dumbalk and District is part of the area described as Rural North East of South Gippsland, it is a predominantly rural area. Rural North East includes the small townships and localities of Allambee Reserve (part), Allambee South (part), Arawata, Berrys Creek, Boolarong, Boolarra (part), Boolarra South (part), Boorool, Darlimurla (part), Delburn (part), Dollar, **Dumbalk, Dumbalk North**, Fairbank, Gunyah, Hallston, Kardella, Koorooman, Leongatha North, Mardan, Mirboo (part), Mount Eccles, Mount Eccles South, Poowong East (part), Ranceby, Ruby, Strzelecki (part), Thorpdale South (part), Trida (part), Turtons Creek, Wild Dog Valley and Woorarra West. Rural North East is bounded by Baw Baw Shire and the locality of Mirboo North in the north, Latrobe City and Wellington Shire in the east, the localities of Toora North and Mount Best, the Franklin River, the locality of Wonga, Boolarra-Foster Road, the localities of Foster, Foster North, Stony Creek and Meeniyah in the south, and the localities of Nerrena, Leongatha, Kardella South, Korumburra, Poowong and Poowong North in the west.

Settlement of the area dates from the mid 1800s, with gradual growth from the late 1800s into the early 1900s. The most significant development occurred during the interwar and post-war periods. The population has declined slightly since the early 1990s, a result of few dwellings being added to the area and a decline in the average number of persons living in each dwelling. Land is used mainly for dairy and beef farming as well as cropping for potatoes, peas and vineyards. Dumbalk and District also hosts an annual Garden Day and annual Christmas Party in the memorial park.





# Who are we?

## Population Profile

### Dumbalk (Suburb)

In the 2011 Census, there were 113 **families** in Dumbalk (Suburb), 47 couples with children, 59 Couple families without children and 7 One Parent families with an overall district population of 412.

The median weekly individual **income** for persons aged 15 years and over who were usual residents was \$396, compared with \$577 in Australia. The median weekly household income was \$840, compared with \$1,234 in Australia. The median weekly family income was \$900 compared with \$1,481 in Australia.

There were a total of 157 private **dwelling**s counted in Dumbalk (Suburb) 75 were fully owned, 60 being purchased and 16 rented with 5 being not stated. 113 were family households, 37 lone person household and 6 group households.

*(Statistics from the 2011 Census)*

*Of a total labour force of 57 individuals aged over 15 years, there were 32 **employed** full time, 21 part time & 4 employed away from work. There were 69 people not in the labour force. (Statistics from the 2006 Census – 2011 employment stats to be released Oct 2012)*

### Rural North East (statistics from SGSC website)

Key statistics (summary statistics)	Rural North East			2001			Change 2001 to 2006
	2006		South Gippsland Shire %	2001		South Gippsland Shire %	
Usual Residence data	number	%		number	%		
<b>Usual resident population</b>							
Total population (b)	2,654	100.0	100.0	2,610	100.0	100.0	44
Males (b)	1,357	51.1	49.4	1,316	50.4	49.4	40
Females (b)	1,297	48.9	50.6	1,293	49.6	50.6	4
<b>Population characteristics</b>							
Indigenous population	17	0.6	0.5	13	0.5	0.6	4
Australian born	2,235	84.2	83.1	2,245	86.0	84.0	-10
Overseas born	269	10.2	10.9	271	10.4	10.6	-2
Australian citizens	2,434	91.7	91.2	2,466	94.5	92.4	-32
Australian citizens aged 18+	1,814	68.4	68.5	1,761	67.5	67.4	53
<b>Age structure</b>							
Infants 0 to 4 years	129	4.9	5.6	156	6.0	6.0	-28
Children 5 to 17 years	544	20.5	18.7	562	21.5	20.6	-18
Adults 18 to 64 years	1,611	60.7	57.7	1,594	61.1	57.4	17
Mature adults 65 to 84 years	353	13.3	15.9	282	10.8	14.2	71
Senior citizens 85 years and over	20	0.7	2.2	22	0.9	1.7	-3
Average household size (persons)	2.55	--	--	2.69	Photos K.Fraser SGSC		

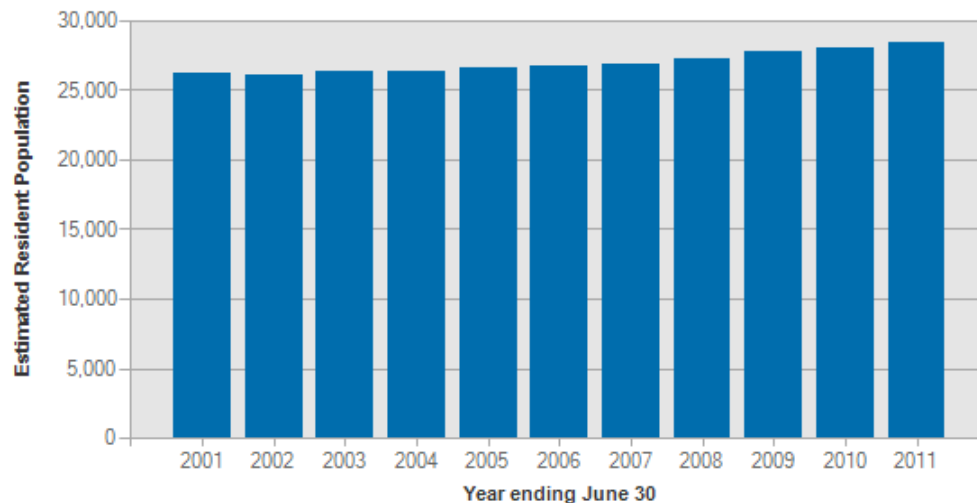
# South Gippsland Profile

## South Gippsland - Shire wide statistics

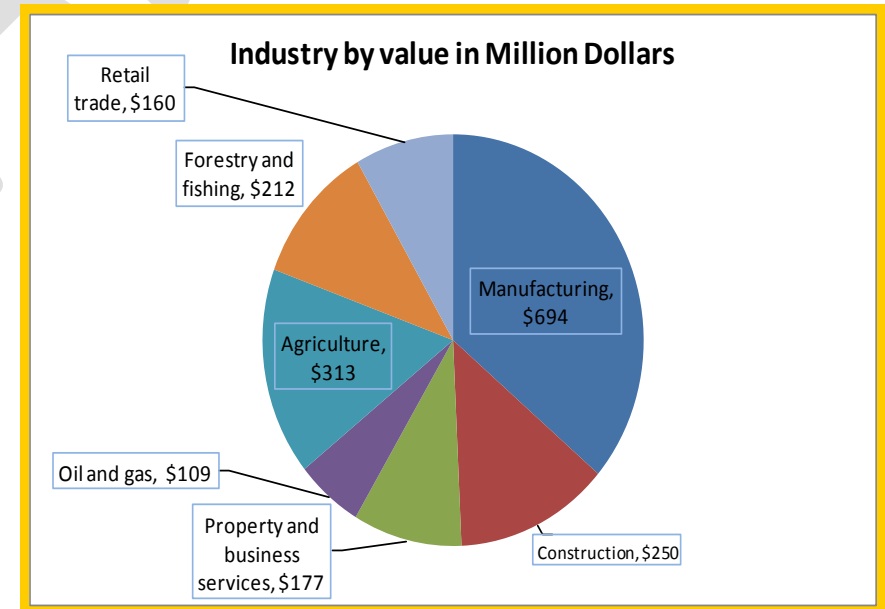
South Gippsland has a thriving economy with over 7,000 businesses contributing to an annual output of over \$2.8 billion. South Gippsland has one of the lowest unemployment rates in Australia

South Gippsland Shire is located just a pleasant ninety minute drive through coastal flats and rolling hills to the south east of Melbourne, and stretches from Nyora in the west, to Welshpool in the east, and Mirboo North to the north. The southern boundary is formed by the Bass Strait coastline. As well as the main towns of Korumburra, Leongatha, Mirboo North and Foster, South Gippsland has over 20 smaller communities that are an integral part of the shire. Its commercial, social, cultural and environmental qualities make it a wonderful environment to live, work and invest. The shire has an expanding population of over 28,000 and covers 3,280 square kilometres which include some of the nation's most arable farming land.

Estimated Resident Population, South Gippsland Shire Council



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Cat. No. 3218.0 - Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2009



# Community Assets

## Community Achievements

\$40,000 raised for CFA light tanker • Annual festival Camp draft • Dumbalk village market • Refurbished public toilets • Walking track - Main Rd to Recreation Reserve • Recreation Reserve pavilion upgrade • Recreation Reserve veranda • Refurbishment of Dumbalk general store • Rehabilitation of Dollar Rd • Back to Dumbalk celebrations • winner of SGS Community Event of the year • Annual Garden Day for CFA • Annual Christmas party in Memorial Park

## Community Groups

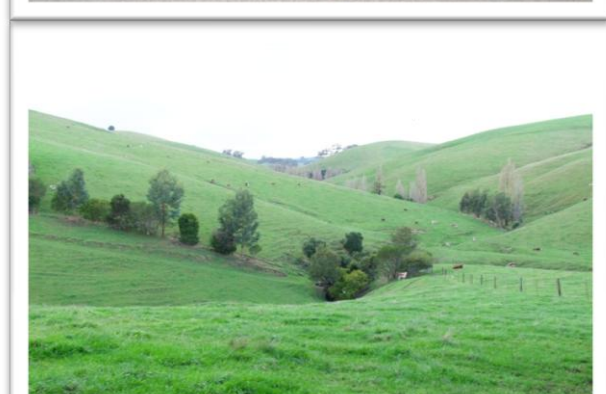
Dumbalk & District Progress Association • MDU Football & Netball Club • Dumbalk Hall Committee • Historical interest • Dumbalk Indoor Bias Bowling Club • Dumbalk village market • Tarwin Valley Camp Draft committee • Dumbalk Rural Fire Brigade • MDU Cricket Club • Dumbalk Tennis Club • Dumbalk Hall Ladies Catering Committee • Tarwin Valley Landcare • SG Bee Keeping Group • Anglicare Church Committee • Dumbalk CFA (Snr & Jrn)

## Facilities

Playground & BBQ facilities in the park • Dumbalk Hall (dance floor, supper room, full catering facilities) • CFA Tanker • Welcome boards • Community notice board • Public toilets • Newsletter • Community bus • Mural • Dumbalk Community Centre (Old kinder building) • Dumbalk Recreation Reserve • playground, electric BBQ & shelter • Camp Draft Arena & amenities • Tennis Court • Memorial Park & rotunda • Heritage Park & Historical Display • Recreation Reserve • Walking Track

## Assets

Valuable farming land • Beautiful views • Friendly people • Quiet & peaceful • History • Caring & supportive community



## **Introduction**

The Dumbalk & District Community Plan is a document which may be used as a reference for any individuals or organisations wishing to understand more about the aspirations of the Dumbalk & District community. The Dumbalk & District Community Plan reflects the view of a wide cross-section of the community and contains a vision for Dumbalk and district for the next five years.

Contained in the plan is also a list of priority areas, which the community believes should be focused on to fulfil the vision. In addition, suggested action plans, which may be undertaken to fulfil the vision, are included.

Essentially, the Dumbalk & District Community Plan looks at what we value in the Dumbalk district and what we want it to become.

## **The Purpose of the Community Plan**

The purpose of the Dumbalk & District Community Plan is to provide the opportunity for the community to discuss and decide the future it sees for itself.

The plan will provide residents with certainty in regards to growth and development in the town, the types of services that can realistically be provided, the opportunities that are available now and in the future. It will set priorities in areas such as infrastructure, health, roads and the development of land.

This plan is owned by the community and will form the basis of discussion with other interested groups such as government and business in the future. It is not a static plan but an evolving one which will provide us with much needed direction into what is otherwise an uncertain future. It will be a way of mapping the future for ourselves and our children and hopefully set a good foundation for our grandchildren.

## Community Plan Development and Distribution - process, promotion and communication

### 1. Pre Community Promotion and Communication

The major objective of the Community Plan development process has been to ensure that all members of the community had the opportunity to contribute to the creation of the community plan for Dumbalk & District.

As part of the Lower Tarwin Valley Districts Project, the Dumbalk & District Community Plan development process commenced with the South Gippsland Shire Council's Lower Tarwin Valley Community Facilitator gathering all existing information, reports and previous community consultations that had occurred over the past 5 years. This information was then formed into a Community Plan Working Document and introduced at the Dumbalk & District Progress Association meeting to invite the community to participate in the Community Planning process.

The Dumbalk & District Progress Association partnered with the Lower Tarwin Valley Project to become the lead community organisation to help drive the Community Planning process. Several meetings took place with the Dumbalk & District Progress Association to help facilitate community consultation, engagement and ensure the Community Planning process met the individual needs of the community prior to the Dumbalk & District Community Planning Workshop.

The community consultation and engagement process included:

- Individual presentation by the Lower Tarwin Valley Project to the Dumbalk & District Progress Association
- Establishment of a Community Planning Working Group through the Dumbalk & District Progress Association
- Advertising and promotion to the community for the Community Workshops through the delivery of notices to householders, community notices, newspaper articles and newspaper advertisements
- Community workshop held and facilitated by the South Gippsland Shire Council's Lower Tarwin Valley Project to identify Priority Projects and Community Project Teams
- Youth specific engagement sessions and meetings
- Development of the Vision for Dumbalk & District and the Draft Dumbalk & District Community Plan
- Presentation of the Draft Dumbalk & District Community Plan to community members and other key stakeholders for comment
- Distribution of the finalised Dumbalk & District Community Plan



## **2. Post Community Plan Promotion and Communication**

Once the Draft Dumbalk & District Community Plan was developed, the plan was distributed to members of the community to allow for review and feedback. After an agreed review period any changes were incorporated and the finalised version of the Community Plan available to the broad community of Dumbalk & District.

## **3. Community Plan Distribution and Action**

The completed Dumbalk & District Community Plan will be available to all members of the Dumbalk & District communities. South Gippsland Shire Council is committed to support the community of Dumbalk & Districts and the Project Teams to help develop actions for Priority Projects outlined in the Dumbalk & District Community Plan when appropriate. The community will be regularly informed of progress in relation to the community plan through the Dumbalk & District Progress Association.

## **Who was involved in developing the community plan?**

### **4. Community Organisation and Working Group Team**

The Dumbalk & District Community Plan process began with the presentation of the community planning process to the Dumbalk & District Progress Association in July 2011

A Dumbalk & District Progress Association Community Plan Working Group was established in February 2012 to help promote and facilitate engagement of the Dumbalk & district community in the Community Planning Project. The Dumbalk & District Progress Association was the lead community organisation for the process. Forming the Working Group consisting of several key representatives from the community and South Gippsland Shire Council staff members. The Community Planning Working Group members were as follows

#### **Community Representatives**

Committee members of the Dumbalk & District Progress Association (2012)

Key contact persons: Bev Hanley & Kay Cook

#### **Council Staff Members**

Marzia Maurilli – Community Facilitator – Lower Tarwin Valley Project

Barbara Look – Community Strengthening Officer

Ned Dennis - Community Strengthening Manager

### **5. The Community**

The Dumbalk & District Community Plan has been developed with those members of the community who have an interest in the future of Dumbalk. People involved in the community meetings and workshop session included residents of Dumbalk, Dollar and Districts, youth representatives and key community organisations, groups and clubs.

# Vision statement

## Vision Statement

The Dumbalk & District Community is a strong and vibrant community.

Future growth and development will be in harmony with the community, its aspirations and rural life style.

The Community respects and values the historical, economic and environmental significant of farming in the Dumbalk Districts.



# Ideas bank

First Priority Projects Group		Votes
Update of Dollar road past Ashdale Property		13
Rec Reserve master plan - upgrade recreation reserve facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Value adding to Camp Draft</li> <li>• RV friendly</li> <li>• Free camping around rec reserve.</li> <li>• RV dump site for black water</li> <li>• tennis/club/committee</li> <li>• cricket club</li> </ul>	13	
Maintain Old Kindergarten Site as Community Centre		11

Second Priority Projects Group		Votes
Tennis Courts		10
Historical Memorabilia Display in old kindergarten		10

Projects already identified as <u>District</u> priorities with existing Community & Council Support	For more information please refer to the groups and reports listed below
Weather station	State Government
Mobile Phone Reception	Federal Government

# Ideas bank

<b>Priority Projects (to be added as above priorities are revised &amp; reviewed)</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>Priority Projects (to be added as above priorities are revised &amp; reviewed)</b>	<b>Votes</b>
CFA Light Tanker – 4 wheel drive, 1200 litre	7	Medical Services	0
Sewerage	5	Kids police patrol	0
Mobile Phone Reception	4	Kids afternoon or early evening movie night for younger kids (maybe parents free)	0
Transport – Is the use of the school bus system an option for more flexible transport ability	4	Entry ramp at hall	0
Skate Park (ramps, half pipe)	4	Retirement home, nursing home (using school)	0
A fun camp for kids who are lacking fitness	4	Old school – make it a pilot workshop for students wanting to leave school early. Help them into trades and gaming.	0
Community Bus	3	Asphalt around the hall after the new public toilets are constructed outside the Hall	0
Environmentally friendly/eco village	3	Public Toilets (next to Hall) Refurbishment - Complete	0
Off road trail circuit around town and connecting existing community facilities	3	Walking track from main road to recreation reserve - Completed but maintenance required	0
Structure plan & zoning (community/commercial)	2	Better Church Facilities	0
Development of Recreation Reserve.	2	Extend Dumbalk Fire Brigade Shed	0
Bikes/jumps, somewhere and additional play facilities	2	Youth/community movie nights	0



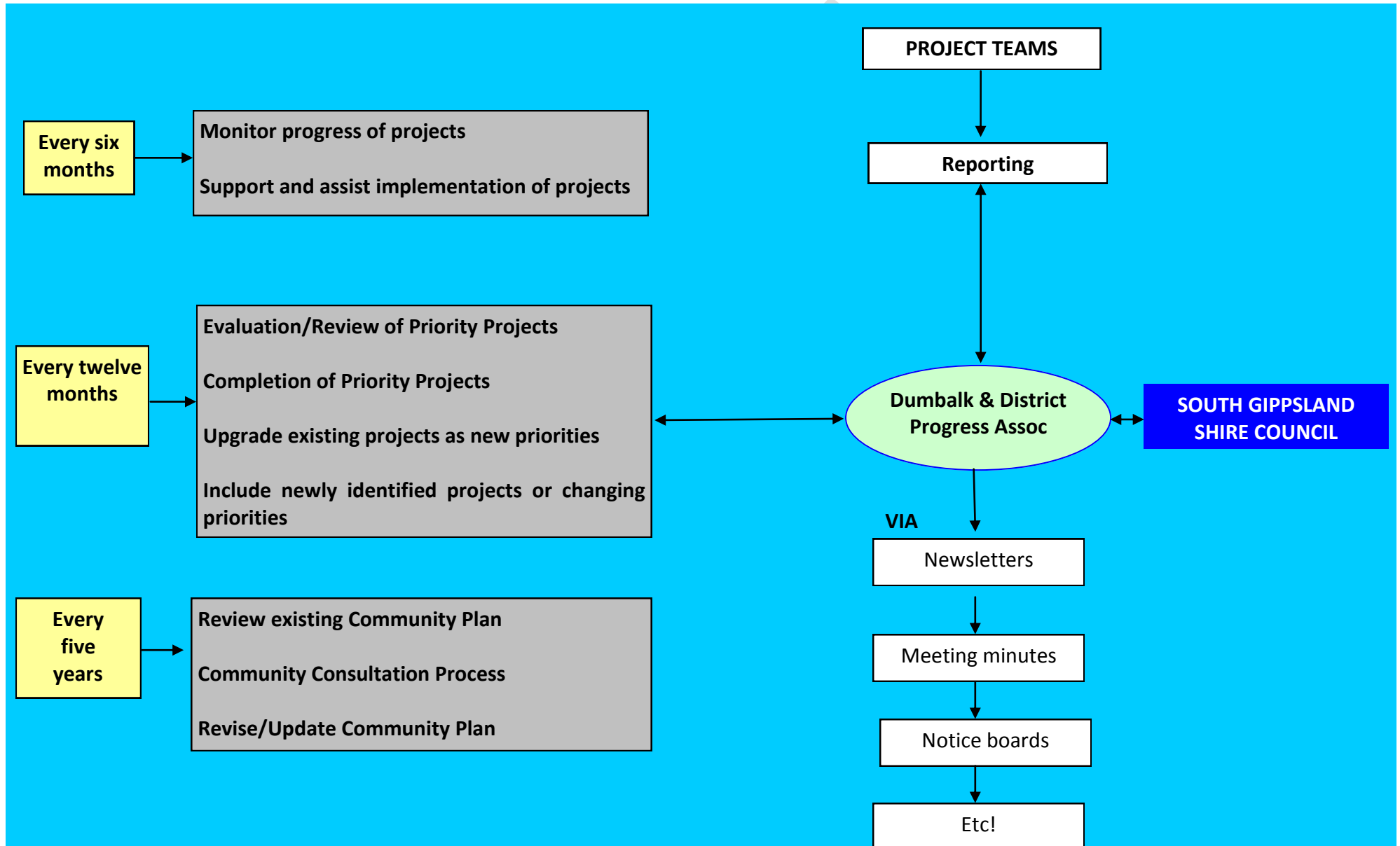
# Ideas bank

Improved walking tracks/bicycle track/fitness track	2	Master Plan before Upgrading the infrastructure & playing field to create two fields & resurfacing at least one tennis	0
Markets/Festivals	2	Half Ring Basket Ball Court	0
Community bus to take kids to Friday night disco in Leongatha	2	Shared trail around the perimeter of the ground around recreation reserve	0
Meals on Wheels	1	Recreational cycling/cycling cafe culture opportunity	0
Old School Site Future	1	Consider combining management committees for parks, trails and recreation facilities into one to increase coordination and efficiencies	0
Town Signage ( trucks to not use exhaust brakes sign) Signage is on the way	1	Agri Tourism opportunity in connection with the Olive Growing Industry	0
Roads – reconstruct the two bad section of Loves Lane	1	Dairy Festival	0
Indoor sports facility at school / kinder eg gym equipment	1	Goal Posts	0
Farm Stay Accommodation Opportunities	1	Facilities for families & youth	0
Promote the town/promote tourism	1	Meals on Wheels(give food to elderly people who can't get food for themselves)	0
Extend carpark at the Dumbalk Store	1	Foodcart around town (such as hotdogs and dim sims)	0
Demolish kindergarten and change to library and computer room	1	One game night a month for kids big and small	0
Town Maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trim Trees</li> <li>• Town working bee – tidy up</li> <li>• Grass Cutting</li> <li>• Footpath from Shop</li> <li>• Roadside maintenance</li> </ul>	0	Pool (small) Teenagers and young kids in area.	0
Neighbourhood Watch Committee	0	Using school – create a camp for city kids to see a dairy community	0

# Review process

## PLAN

## PROJECTS





**South Gippsland Shire Council, through the Community Strengthening team,  
proudly supporting the Dumbalk Community in the Community Planning Process.**

DRAFT

Version Record – Dumbalk Community Plan		
Ist Draft	8/5/12	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Draft	9/5/12	
Final Draft	25/5/12	3 hard copies
3 <sup>rd</sup> Draft	18/07/12	