We need you to get involved again!

Can you spare some time to go online, read how Council is responding to the ideas suggested through the OurSay consultation process and number five key Council functions in order of importance to you and your family?

If you can, you’ll be helping South Gippsland Shire Council greatly to finalise the proposed 2015-16 Budget.

“We really appreciate the community participation that has taken place so far – thank you! This is the next round of interaction in the OurSay community engagement process to help us fine tune the proposed Budget for the March Council meeting,” explained Chief Executive Officer Tim Tamlin. “It’s been a great journey since we started in October with an online survey followed by two workshops and several meetings to listen to the suggestions of the individual authors of the highest ranked ideas.”

“We received 98 suggestions through the online survey, of which some were not related to the budget. Some ideas would require additional spending while others would reduce costs. What is acknowledged is that the community is seeking many things- from increased spending on community services and physical infrastructure to reduced rates.”

“The reality is that Council has limited resources to allocate, so to take on new projects we need to relinquish or reduce some services or projects to contain the Budget. What services could your family live without? We need to know what is most important to you.”

Simply go to the Council website (www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au) or Facebook page and click on the link to the OurSay website on the home page.

There you will be asked to number 1-5 the following key Council functions to indicate what is most important to your family:

- Promoting tourism and the economic development of the shire
- Providing for the good planning and orderly development of the shire
- Providing a range of community services such as recreation, youth, family, aged and environmental services
- Providing physical infrastructure such as roads, footpaths, drainage and bridges
- Providing a smaller range of basic services and delivering a greater reduction in rates

“Please continue to be involved and if you haven’t done so yet, this is your opportunity now to influence Council’s Budget. You have until Monday 9 March to have your say.”

New notes have been added to the OurSay site to update you on the outcomes of meetings to progress the priority ideas, so have a look to see the thoughtful work that has been done by the community in partnership with Council.

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