

Coastal population impact plan on exhibition

Comments are now welcome on the Draft Seasonal Population Impact in Coastal Towns Plan that identifies the impacts of fluctuating seasonal populations on the coastal towns of Venus Bay, Sandy Point, Walkerville, Waratah Bay, Yanakie, Port Franklin, Toora and Port Welshpool.

Broad consultation together with a thorough analysis of coastal populations has resulted in the plan that identifies the unique issues facing each coastal town.

The plan also includes a set of actions addressing these issues on a town-by-town basis setting priorities for Council, other responsible organisations and the community.

Social Planning Officer, Vicki Bradley, said the town issues action plan outlined priorities to assist in managing a balance of services and infrastructure across the year.

"A challenge for Council and other management authorities on the South Gippsland coast is the increasing popularity of our coastal towns with holiday-home owners, day visitors and retirees," Mrs Bradley explained.

"Seasonal population increases during peak periods often result in congestion, can be frustrating to experience and are particularly challenging to manage. Considerable differences between peak and non-peak periods require flexible people management strategies that are responsive to the unique needs of each town."

The plan is on exhibition at the Council offices in Leongatha and on Council's website at <u>www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au</u>, at the Foster Library, Fish Creek Store, Port Welshpool General Store, Sandy Point Store, Tarwin Lower Post Office, Toora Supermarket, Walkerville Kiosk, Waratah Bay Caravan Park, Venus Bay Community Centre, Yanakie General Store and the South Coast Mobile Library.

Submissions to the plan can be made in writing via email, letter or on a submission form. For those wishing to comment verbally, appointments can be made to speak with the relevant Council officer in person or on the phone.

Submissions will be received no later than 5.00pm on Friday 30 October 2015.

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For media enquiries, please contact the Communications team on 5662 9200 South Gippsland Shire Council, 9 Smith St. (Private Bag 4), Leongatha 3953 chrisl@southgippsland.vic.gov.au or tracy.vanderzalm@southgippsland.vic.gov.au www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au