

New tenure agreement goes swimmingly

Council will enter into a new land tenure arrangement for the South Gippsland SPLASH building and surrounding areas, saving it \$6,000 per year in licence fees.

The new arrangement actually improves the level of control over the SPLASH building, which is Council's own asset and will see Council become the appointed Committee of Management over the SPLASH site.

The Leongatha Agricultural and Recreation Reserve Committee of Management Inc. (Rec Reserve CoM) currently manages the land that comprises the SPLASH building and surrounding areas.

The current land tenure arrangement between the Rec Reserve CoM and Council for the SPLASH site is a licence agreement and this has been the arrangement since SPLASH was developed.

Director Sustainable Communities and Infrastructure, Anthony Seabrook, said this tenure arrangement was problematic for Council.

"The Rec Reserve CoM is the appointed CoM for a valuable Council asset sitting on land that Council has limited control over," he explained. "On top of that, Council is currently paying \$6,000 per annum to the Rec Reserve CoM for its own building."

When SPLASH was developed, additional land was required outside of Council's CoM boundaries and within the boundaries of the Rec Reserve CoM land. It was intended for Council to be appointed the CoM over the SPLASH site however, the time it would take for the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) to complete the process did not fit in with the development timeframe.

"The most secure tenure position for Council is to be appointed the CoM over the SPLASH site to protect its assets and be in a position to remove any unnecessary cost and layer of approvals, as was the original intention," Mr Seabrook said.

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