



## Leongatha Soccer in Lights

South Gippsland Shire Council has been advised that an application for the Leongatha Knights Soccer Club to upgrade the lights and pitch of its home ground at the Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College has been approved. The application was submitted to the Victorian Government's 2017/18 Community Sports Infrastructure Fund.

Funding for the project has been made available from the Victorian Asian Cup 2015 Legacy Fund. This fund was made possible due to the successful running of the 2015 Asian Cup across Australia, producing a surplus of funds which have been directed into upgrading and improving community infrastructure for football across Victoria.

The project is supported by a Council contribution of \$40,000 along with a \$40,000 community contribution.

The lighting and pitch upgrade will relocate and provide new lamps to existing light towers, install additional towers, resurface the pitch and relocate cricket nets to provide a safe run off for players.

The Leongatha Knights identified the upgrades as the two highest priorities to meet the growth of the club. The project was also identified as necessary for future soccer development in Council's 2016 Soccer Facilities Plan.

South Gippsland Shire Mayor Councillor Ray Argento recognised that the lighting and pitch upgrades would make a positive impact for the soccer community.

"Participation in soccer across South Gippsland has increased substantially over the last few years, particularly with female participation.

"Upgrading the lighting and pitch at the home of the Leongatha Knights Soccer Club supports further development for soccer by providing facilities that will assist with training for the club and competitions held in the region.

"Since the home ground is located at the Mary MacKillop Catholic Regional College the upgrades will also provide better facilities for students utilising the ground," said the Mayor.

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