

It has been another busy week as we have been working through our Special Council Meetings hearing submissions from the community for the Draft 2018/19 Annual Budget, Revised 2017-2021 Council Plan and Draft 2018/19 Rating Strategy.

Council is always thankful to hear from our community members and have this opportunity to listen to their concerns and ask questions to understand these situations clearly. Holding these Special Meetings ensures that we are informed to the best of our ability and able to provide everyone with the opportunity to share their thoughts.

Balancing these fundamental plans for Council is never an easy task as we have different facets of the community and our services that we need to address. Ultimately we must budget funds and commit to outcomes that will benefit the majority of our community and those who need it most.

Council understands the importance of Council planning and doesn't take the job lightly. We can assure the community that all decisions made in these aspects have our region and residents in mind.

Next week Council will come together at a Special Council Meeting on 30 May at 11.00am to consider and determine the submissions. The following steps will be for Council to formally consider these documents for adoption at the Ordinary Meeting on the 27 June 2018.

Community members are encouraged to attend these open meetings or if they are unable to attend are invited to watch our livestream either during the meeting or on demand at www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live

In order to work together for the improvement of South Gippsland we must first finalise the planning that will determine our next twelve months and beyond. It is our hope that these documents meet the needs of our community and will help us work towards creating a region of prosperity.

Cr Lorraine Brunt Mayor