

We are only just over a week away from a huge agenda for the June Council Meeting. It is always rewarding coming up to the end of the financial year as we have many projects and plans to be finalised.

While each item deserves our full attention the budget always comes to be top of mind this time each year. This document provides us with forward planning and resourcing for the next twelve months and helps set us up for success in our operations.

It is vital for me to thank all our submitters who shared their thoughts on the budget as part of the community consultation process. Hearing from the community is always rewarding; it ensures we know the views of the people who elected us to represent them and keeps the public central to our decision making. That said, it is a vital part of our role as Councillors that we balance the needs and wants of the current community with the sound financial planning that will leave our future communities with the resources they need in five, ten, twenty years.

I would like to commend our staff, particularly the Finance team, who have worked diligently to ensure the budget we are presented with ensures ongoing financial sustainability while also meeting our present demands.

Those wanting to view the budget that will be considered at the Council Meeting on 27 June are encouraged to visit <u>www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/meetings</u>. It encapsulates not just our revenue and expenses, but also our projects for the year ahead.

While you're there you can take the opportunity to check out a number of other items that will be coming to Councillors for consideration. The Rating Strategy 2018/19, Revised Council Plan 2017-2021, Community Satisfaction Survey Results and the review of the Community Grants Program are just a few other interesting points for us to consider this month.

As always the public are welcome to join us in the galley of Council Chambers from 2.00pm or watch our livestream at <u>www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/livestream</u>

Cr Lorraine Brunt Mayor