

## Protection Sought for Significant Trees

South Gippsland Shire Council intends to protect trees identified in its Significant Tree Register following its recent meeting.

The register aims to preserve and identify trees of importance to the community along with cultural heritage, history and biological diversity.

During a review of the register a total of 60 individual trees and 13 stands of trees were identified.

To ensure high value trees are protected from potential impacts of future building and works, the planning scheme amendment proposes to:

- Apply a Vegetation Protection Overlay to the majority of significant trees.
- Amend the existing Heritage Overlay provisions for some Avenue of Honour trees.
- Add some trees new trees to the Heritage Overlay.application.

An interactive map of the location, details and photo of each tree will be made available through Council's website to allow improved interaction with the community and monitoring of tree health over time.

South Gippsland Shire Council Mayor, Councillor Lorraine Brunt is enthusiastic to see the amendment progress.

"Our community takes pride in protecting our environment and the Vegetation Protection Overlay will help to protect our significant trees. We hope to see the assessed trees displayed on an interactive platform for the community to see and engage with," said the Mayor.

## PR2254 28/06/18