

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Annual Report Summary



*South Gippsland
Shire Council*

This summary provides a snapshot of South Gippsland Shire Council's achievements, challenges and performance measures for the 2017/18 financial year.

- Council endorsed the Korumburra Railway Station as the preferred location for the Korumburra Community Hub.
- Council endorsed the commencement of the development of a Venus Bay Activity Centre Plan with an associated funding allocation of \$35,000. This plan aims to strategically plan the township of Venus Bay based on future population growth.
- Twelve footpath projects costing \$645,539 have been constructed in Foster, Poowong, Mirboo North and Leongatha.
- \$9.0M spent on road infrastructure, sealing, road reseal program, and road rehabilitation program.
- \$2.4 million was spent on Black Spot road projects.
- The Foster streetscape is project complete.
- Funding for the Port Welshpool Long Jetty was secured. Construction is underway.
- Council allocated \$282,000 to refurbish the old Korumburra Kindergarten into the interim Library to assist with the development of the Korumburra Supermarket development.
- Obtained a State Government grant of over \$50,000 to develop a detailed business case for a potential solar farm on Council owned land in Leongatha.

INFRASTRUCTURE

PLANS & POLICIES ADOPTED

South Gippsland Planning Scheme Review.

The 2018-2020 Economic Development and Tourism Strategy.

South Gippsland's Population Growth and Land Supply Study.

Foster Pool Masterplan 2018.

Paths and Trails Strategy and the Open Space Strategy.

Community Engagement Strategy and Community Engagement Policy, based on international best practice standards.

Council Arts and Artefacts Collection Policy.

South Gippsland Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021.

Disability Action Plan 2018-2022.

Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017-2021.

2017 Tree Management Plan.

Annual Budget 2018/19.

Revised Council Plan 2017-2021.

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COMMUNITY

- Funding of \$227,645 was given to community groups to support local projects across the Shire. \$60,495 approved application funding for the Emergency and Small Grants Program.
- A total of 92 speakers took the opportunity to make 61 public presentations to Council with 154 people observing in the gallery. The livestreaming of Council meetings was watched by 2,321 people.
- Council allocated \$5,000 in the 2018/19 Annual Budget to support community participation and collaboration in Leongatha; and to receive a report on 26 September 2018 outlining the extent of interest expressed by the Leongatha Community in establishing a new community collaboration and leadership structure.
- An Arts Development Officer has been appointed and activities from the strategy are being implemented.
- Only four per cent of all Council resolutions were made in closed session; a significant reduction from 15 per cent in 2015/16 and seven per cent in 2016/17. These items were closed due to matters that may prejudice the Council or any person, legal, contractual and/or personnel matters.
- Increase the current budget allocation of \$347,382 for the Toora Swimming Pool by a further \$60,000 to a total of \$407,382 (ex. GST).

ADVOCACY

- Negotiating with VicTrack to secure rail corridor for Council's future uses.
- The Economic Impact Assessment completed for Bair Street, Leongatha Priority Project.
- Five Priority Projects adopted and advocated by Council.
- Community consultation took place in January 2018 on the Port Welshpool Marine Precinct Plan.
- Grant application submitted to Sport and Recreation Victoria 2019/20 Community Sports Infrastructure Fund for \$50,000 for the Rail Trail Extension (Leongatha to Clyde) Planning project.
- Council endorsed the Notice of Motion 'Advocate to the Minister for Planning and Minister for Health to address inconsistencies between the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 and the Planning and Environment Act 1987 in relation to wind farm enforcement.
- 81 per cent of assessed grant applications submitted to State and Federal program funding were successful, above Council target of 30 per cent.
- Submitted an application to the Department of Education and Training Children's Facilities Capital Program -2018/19 Major Grants for Fish Creek Kindergarten Facility Upgrade Project.
- Council voted to support the Mirboo North community campaign to protect its local forests.