

District Coordinating Committees - Public Forums

South Gippsland Shire Council is investigating the value of District Coordinating Committees. District Coordinating Committees would bring together a number of neighbouring towns and villages to help progress larger, more complex, community initiatives and to access additional grant opportunities and provide a structure for advising Council on key local priorities. The District committees could also provide an avenue for external agencies such as VicRoads or water authorities to easily consult with local communities.

Ned Dennis, Council's Community Strengthening Coordinator believes the concept deserves consideration.

"Informal collaboration is already undertaken by towns and communities for specific purposes but District Coordinating committees would provide a structure that could help strengthen ties between townships and progress ideas and activities.

"We are keen to hear from community members to determine whether District Coordinating committees would be beneficial for South Gippsland and, if so, how they should be developed," said Mr. Dennis.

To assist with this discussion, Council is holding seven open forums across South Gippsland in late October. The forums will discuss which townships and communities have natural connections to each other and how coordinating committees could be comprised. Individuals and representatives from community groups are welcome to attend any of the sessions to provide feedback.

Sessions will be held in:

Nyora	Monday 22 October	7.00pm – 8.30pm	Nyora Hall/Community Centre
Ruby	Wednesday 24 October	5.30pm – 7.00pm	Ruby Hall
Tarwin Lower	Friday 26 October	5.30pm – 7.00pm	Tarwin Lower Mechanics Institute
Fish Creek	Monday 29 October	7.00pm – 8.30pm	Fish Creek Memorial Hall
Mirboo North	Tuesday 30 October	7.00pm – 8.30pm	Baromi Centre
Koonwarra	Wednesday 31 October	7.00pm – 8.30pm	Koonwarra Hall
Toora	Thursday 1 November	7.00pm – 8.30pm	Toora Hall

Feedback can also be supplied directly to Ned Dennis, <u>nedd@southgippsland.vic.gov.au</u> or by post to South Gippsland Shire Council, Private Bag 4, Leongatha, 3953. You can also contact the Community Strengthening Team on 03 5662 9200.

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For media enquiries, please contact the Communications team on 5662 9200 South Gippsland Shire Council, 9 Smith St. (Private Bag 4), Leongatha 3953 communications@southgippsland.vic.gov.au www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au