



South Gippsland
Shire Council

A New Home and Community Care Services Provider for South Gippsland

Council has been in negotiations with the Commonwealth and State Governments over the past few months to ensure that a new Home and Community Care Services provider would be working across South Gippsland from 1 April. It can now announce that the new provider is *mecwacare*.

mecwacare is a not-for-profit organisation that has been providing care to clients across Victoria for 60 years. It is also quite experienced in taking on clients in municipalities where councils have ceased providing home care services.

Faith Page, Council's Director of Corporate and Community Services, was positive about the change.

"With the Commonwealth Government flagging that its funding model was up for review after June next year and a move towards clients choosing how to best manage their care, Council has been working diligently to ensure that there was a private provider working across South Gippsland before the changes came in.

"After a great deal of negotiation with Federal and State Governments we are pleased that they have signed contracts with *mecwacare* to ensure continuity of service for South Gippsland residents.

"Over the next five weeks we will be working with our clients, our staff and *mecwacare* to make sure that from the first of April everything is in place to make sure that everyone is cared for as best we can.

"On that note, I'd just like to mention our Home and Community Care workers – they have continued to provide exceptional service to our most vulnerable residents throughout this period of change. I couldn't be more proud of the professional manner in which they have conducted themselves – it's a credit to them all," said Faith.

Clients wanting more information about the changes to HACC services can call 5662 9200.

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