

## New Youth Strategy for South Gippsland

The South Gippsland Shire Council Plan 2017-2021 identified a need to develop a Youth Strategy to aid in determining the needs of young people between 12 and 25 years of age in South Gippsland and to assist them to have a voice regarding matters that affect them.

At its meeting this week Council adopted the South Gippsland Youth Strategy 2019-2023. The Strategy was developed through consultation with young people and outlines actions that Council, young people, and their communities could undertake to achieve these aims.

The purpose of the strategy is to work towards the vision of young people in South Gippsland which they identified as: *“Young people in South Gippsland are valued, respected and supported. We are safe, informed of issues that affect us, and free to make decisions on these issues. We are able to grow and thrive in an environment that is clean, sustainable and offers opportunities for the future.”*

Council’s Community Strengthening Officer Sophie Dixon was proud to see the Youth Strategy adopted.

“The Youth Strategy has been co-designed with young people from throughout South Gippsland to ensure that their views were reflected.

“We have a great opportunity to grow in this space and this strategy will provide direction when considering our options to support, engage and include young people,” said Ms Dixon.

The adoption of the Strategy will assist Council to achieve implementation of its existing Youth Policy 2021. Those wishing to view the strategy can visit Council’s website

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/strategies](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/strategies)

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