

O'Gradys Ridge Road Tourism Development Approved

Yesterday Council issued a Notice of Decision to grant a permit for the use and development of group accommodation on O'Gradys Ridge Road, Foster North subject to eight pages of conditions.

The extensive conditions relate to the provision and approval of amended plans that address a number of issues including the removal of a structure, deletion of illuminated signage, alteration to vehicular access and the inclusion of detailed landscaping, waste management and refuse storage provisions. The conditions also require a patron management plan to be approved by Council as well as a comprehensive bushfire emergency plan to be endorsed by both Council and the Country Fire Authority.

South Gippsland Shire Council's Administrator Julie Eisenbise said that the decision to approve had not been taken lightly.

"This application has been taken very seriously. As well as reviewing all of the information supplied by both the proponent and the objectors, two Administrators visited the proposed development site to gain the best possible understanding of the location and to consider some of the points of contention.

"We believe that the extensive permit conditions will ensure that many objector concerns are addressed while still allowing the tourism development to proceed. Tourism is a major economic driver for the South Gippsland and this development will help to address a demand for group accommodation," said Ms. Eisenbise.

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