

Coastal Strategy Review

South Gippsland Shire Council will undertake community consultation on the South Gippsland Coastal Strategy Project following its meeting this week. Input from Community Consultation will inform the preparation of the Draft Strategy that will be available later in 2020.

An overview paper and background report has been prepared outlining the key issues and opportunities in South Gippsland's coastal areas. A number of different options are presented for the future – these may include Council actions and advocacy opportunities.

Community consultation will be undertaken until 28 February 2020 in order to understand the community's views on the issue. Council's current coastal strategy is 17 years old and coastal science, population pressures and policy have changed dramatically over that period prompting a review.

South Gippsland Shire Council's Chair Administrator Julie Eisenbise wanted to hear from the community on their views for management of our coastal areas.

"There is no doubt that the coastal areas in South Gippsland truly are one of our greatest assets, their natural beauty is enjoyed by residents and visitors and they are a drawcard for our region.

"The South Gippsland Coastal Strategy is a measure to ensure we protect our coastal environment for years to come.

"We hope to hear from the community on what way they think will be the best going forward in protecting this natural asset," said Ms Eisenbise.

Those wishing to view the Coastal Strategy papers and make a submission can visit <u>www.oursay.org/southgippsland/coastalstrategy</u>

Council staff will be attending the Port Welshpool Sea Days Festival on 4 January from 9.30am – 11.30am and hosting community drop in sessions at Toora and Yanakie on 10 January from 10.00am – 11.30am at Stanley Street Park and 12.30pm – 2.00pm at the General Store respectively. Updates on future events will be available on the OurSay page.

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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