

Updated Procurement Policy Adopted

South Gippsland Shire Council adopted its Procurement Policy for the 2020/21 financial year at its meeting today.

Council is bound to review and, if required, revise its Procurement Policy on an annual basis. The revised Policy that was adopted yesterday introduces aspects based on an internal review of the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC) investigations into Local Government Procurement, as well process improvements resolving previous audit observations.

It also strengthens Council’s position in terms of giving priority to local companies when it comes to buying goods and services. A Local Procurement Implementation Plan will be brought to Council by 31 August 2020 to further support this priority.

South Gippsland Shire Administrator Christian Zahra AM is confident that the revised Policy will ensure that Council expends public funds in a responsible manner that supports the local economy.

“Council needs to have a robust Procurement Policy to provide assurance to the community that its money is being spent responsibly: this document does that.

“We also recognise that Council has the ability to make a significant contribution to the economic prosperity of the municipality through the way we manage our procurement processes. This Policy encourages local suppliers and providers to compete for the provision of Council goods, services and works and I look forward to Council receiving the Implementation Plan which will set out how Council will seek to maximise local benefit through procurement’.

“Council staff as part of this policy are encouraged – where appropriate – to purchase from local businesses, namely suppliers within the South Gippsland Shire and the immediate neighbouring municipalities. Purchases are to be justified on best value grounds for South Gippsland Shire, which include local economic, environmental and social benefits,” said Mr Zahra AM.

Anyone interested in doing business with Council is encouraged to have a look at the Policy and the Tenders tab on Council’s website.

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