

Administrators' Message



It has been another busy week for us at Council as a result of the July Council Meeting where a number of key topics to be considered. In particular we wanted to bring attention to the 2020/21 Priority Projects, our Community Report and the 2020 Community Satisfaction Results.

We are very pleased to announce that the priority projects for 2020/21 are the Korumburra Streetscape and Leongatha Early Years Learning Centre. These projects follow on from a very successful advocacy effort in 2019/20 where many of the agreed priority projects were significantly advanced or funded including the Great Southern Rail Trail extensions and the Korumburra Community Hub.

The Korumburra Streetscape and Leongatha Early Years Learning Centre were strategically selected as our priority projects due to the positive outcomes each project would bring to the South Gippsland community and our economic prosperity. Both projects will be advocated for in the near future and we will keep the community informed on how we progress. We hope that other levels of government are supportive of these projects going ahead and can help us make them a reality.

Our Community Report was also released as part of the Council Meeting which demonstrates to the community and the Minister for Local Government how we have been progressing towards restoring good governance practices at Council.

Our primary focus for our role as Administrators has been to implement a Community Leadership Program and review and implement Council policies with a focus on good governance, councillor conduct and Council meeting procedures. This has been a significant amount of work and we are pleased to advise that both tasks are progressing well and we are advancing towards our goals. Those wishing to view the full report are encouraged to visit www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/yourcouncil

Another key aspect from the meeting this month was our consideration of the 2020 Community Satisfaction Results. We are proud to see that overall satisfaction with Council's performance has increased from 31 per cent of satisfied residents in 2019 to 42 per cent satisfied residents in 2020. There has been a lot of rebuilding of trust required since we were appointed as Administrators and to get this result demonstrates that we are heading in the right direction.

We understand that this is only the beginning of strengthening our relationship with the community and we look forward to continuing to work together in this space. Thank you to the ratepayers who gave their honest opinions through this survey and took the time to give this feedback which is very valuable to us.

In all it was a very productive meeting, and this recap only scratches the surface of what was covered. If you wish to learn more you can watch the livestream of the meeting on demand at www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live. If you'd prefer to be kept updated on Council news via email you can register for Council's fortnightly e-newsletter In The Know at www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/intheknow

Outside of the Council Meeting we have been watching carefully as the cases of COVID-19 continue to rise across the State. We would like to remind residents that phase one of Council's \$2M COVID-19 Community Support Package has been adopted to help our region respond to and recover from the

pandemic.

Phase One provides support in a number of different ways including subsidised flu shots, community and business grants, business fee refunds and community restarter packs.

To find out more about these initiatives and to see what you may be eligible for please visit:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/covidsupport

Julie Eisenbise, Christian Zahra AM and Rick Brown – Administrators