

Administrators' Message



What a week it has been as we adjust to Stage Three restrictions in South Gippsland and the compulsory wearing of face coverings.

While none of us wanted to be put in this situation again; our past experiences set us up to adapt well to the current conditions. By taking the restrictions seriously, only leaving home for one of the four allowed reasons and wearing a mask when we do, we can reduce the spread of COVID-19.

During this time, it is natural for us to reflect on our actions during the first round of restrictions and determine what might be necessary again this time. Did you check in with loved ones and friends online? Did you get outside regularly for a mental break? These types of questions can be useful to determine what will be needed for you to get through this period as best you can.

This certainly has been a challenging year but if we work together while staying apart we can keep each other safe. If you need extra support during this time please contact services such as Lifeline on 13 11 14, Beyond Blue on 1300 22 4636 or Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800 as they are there to help.

This is also a time for us to continue to support our local businesses. The first round of restrictions was difficult enough for our businesses, so consider doing all that you can to show your support. If you are in the position to you could give yourself a treat with a local takeaway to save cooking one night, you can find restaurants and cafes that are open for takeaway or deliveries at

www.shopsouthgippsland.com.au

We have seen great demonstrations local support in the business sector itself with Saputo purchasing vouchers from local businesses for their employees. Driving local spending is one of the most practical forms of support we can provide local small business in the challenging times so we are encouraging anyone to do so if they can, in order to help our local economy.

Council has been supporting South Gippsland's business sector by providing \$1000 grants through its \$2M COVID-19 Community Support Package. We have done this to support businesses and encourage further spending locally, whether that be for necessary equipment or professional support.

With the return to restrictions we have made the decision to hold this month's Council Meeting completely online. This has been done in order to keep everyone involved in Council Meetings safe and to stay in keeping with the Government directive to work from home if possible. Those wishing to watch the meeting can still do so live or on demand at www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live

Despite the pandemic, we are continuing to make good progress on a number of our local development projects. If you are curious about projects such as the Mirboo North pool, Korumburra Community Hub and Bair Street refurbishment please visit www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/priorityprojects

Please stay safe during this time and look out for one another wherever you can.

Julie Eisenbise, Christian Zahra AM and Rick Brown – Administrators