

Administrators' Message



Despite the quick decision to enter lockdown last week, many of us were able to swiftly spring into action and do what we needed to do in order to keep each other safe.

At Council, we were able to respond quickly to the changes announced last Friday. For this, we commend all staff who transitioned back to working from home while maintaining support and service provision to our community. Our experience over the last 12 months and our ongoing business continuity planning has ensured we're in a good position to be resilient, respond quickly and keep the needs of our customers and community at the forefront of our decision-making.

We understand that these lockdowns have not been easy on many businesses, and finding your way through all the restrictions can be tough. We strongly encourage, not only business owners but all community members, to keep abreast of all the updates to hot spots, restrictions and alike on the Department of Health and Human Services website:

www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

Our Economic Development team has also been going door-to-door to businesses across our Shire to ensure they have the support and resources they need. From handing out COVID-19 resources to having a general chat about the last 12 months, the team has done a fabulous job keeping up with the changes we've faced and informing and supporting businesses.

There are also some useful resources available to help new and existing local businesses navigate this difficult time. If you need support, please head to Council's website:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/business

In the past few weeks, Council has also announced the second round of the Community Grants Program. The program is tailored for community groups and organisations who need a bit of a helping hand to replace equipment, get through some long-awaited projects, or even run a festival or event. There are four different grants that your group or organisation can apply for, each have eligibility criteria and minimum funding amounts required by the applicant.

When the program was initially run last year, Council saw some brilliant applications that not

only benefited the local group who received the funding, but also the broader community.
We look forward to seeing the next round of applications. For more information and to apply,
please go to Council's website: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants

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