

Mayor's Message



Over the weekend, Council hosted a fabulous event, A Day on the Course.

It was fantastic to see so many people out and about sharing the day that really did have it all. From market stalls to food and drink to music, it was a thoroughly enjoyable day for people of all ages. There were people from far and wide who attended this event, which was magnificent for our region.

Thank you to everyone who attended the event, the stallholders and the musicians who entertained us all day long. Without interested acts, stallholders and people to come along, events like these just aren't possible – so thank you. I would also like to specially mention Councillor Williams, who did a great job providing the opening speech at A Day on the Course, even with very short notice.

We are back into the swing of things this week by having our first Council Meeting for 2022. It was great to be back at the Council table, make some important decisions for our community, and share what Councillors have all been up to over the Summer period.

One of the most important items we considered at the meeting was the Councillor Code of Conduct. This document represents our commitment to how we want to work together during our term, how we want to work with Council officers and the community, and how we will deal with differences of view – openly and respectfully. We look forward to setting this new standard of good governance and respectful conduct for Council and the community during our three-year term.

I would like to thank Councillor Gilligan for her work behind-the-scenes in getting our, at times, messy thoughts down onto paper in a way that were appropriate for this significant document. All Councillors feel extremely fortunate to be part of a Councillor group like this. We have our own opinions and views on things, but we come together, we talk about it constructively, and we listen to each other's point of view. This is something every single Councillor should be proud of, because we all play our part in that.

Due to the significance of this document, it was lovely to take a moment during the meeting for us all to sign this document in the presence of our Chief Executive Officer Kerry Ellis and before the gallery. A document we all wholeheartedly believe in and want to abide by.

If you missed the meeting and would like to watch it, please visit

Many Councillors have received feedback from the community on the Leongatha Heavy Vehicle Bypass. The first part of the bypass has already been completed and we are placing a strong priority on getting part two funded. This is a key advocacy priority for us and is part of our ongoing advocacy efforts with the help of Council staff. To update you, the community, on where this is at currently, we are going through the motions of setting up a meeting with Regional Roads Victoria so we can hear directly from them what is and isn't possible. As updates come to hand, we will endeavour to keep you all in the loop. If you would like to view other priority projects, please visit www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/priorityprojects

I would like to conclude this week's message by simply saying, thank you to the South Gippsland community. Thank you for putting your faith in us to lead you. Thank you for getting in touch with us and for extending invitations to attend events and meetings. Thank you for holding us to account and ensuring we are going to deliver what you all deserve.

All Councillors thoroughly enjoy meeting with you and hearing your ideas. I'm sure I speak for all Councillors when I say, we are more than happy for you to get in touch. Our contact information can be found on Council's website.

We also strongly encourage you to download the Snap, Send, Solve app. It is a great app to have on your phone in case you need to report an issue to Council. Councillors have been using it a lot and showing community members how to use it. They have been stoked with the timely response by staff to the issues submitted.

Thank you for reading and have a safe week.

Cr Mohya Davies – Mayor