

First Advocacy Strategy Adopted

Yesterday, at the 29 June Council Meeting, Council adopted its first Advocacy Strategy and a new Advocacy Priority Project List.

This strategy sets out how Council will advocate moving forward and the roles and responsibilities of the Mayor, Chief Executive Officer, Councillors and staff as well as the important role the community plays.

The strategy identifies that advocacy is most successful when Council engage with, listen to and work in partnership with the community.

Advocacy includes things like lobbying the State or Federal Government for funding, policy change or legislation reform. It can involve letters to and meetings with Ministers and Members of Parliament, letters of support, media campaigns and much more.

As well as the adopted strategy, Council identified what the top advocacy projects will be moving forward. The priority list was developed with community feedback, State and Federal policy, evidence and data, ambition and achievability in mind and includes:

- Road improvements and an increase in road funding;
- Connectivity improvements including upgraded NBN and a decrease in mobile blackspots;
- Supporting our emergency preparedness;
- Funding for early years infrastructure;
- State Government support to upgrade the Leongatha Recreation Reserve Grand Stand;
- Improved health services; and
- Coastal protection such as erosion mitigation.

To read the strategy in full, please visit www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/strategies

Quote attributable to South Gippsland Shire Council Mayor, Mohya Davies:

“The community’s participation in the recent Shaping South Gippsland engagement campaign was essential to the development of this list. The relationships built with the community through this process will be fundamental in underpinning our advocacy efforts and will continue to guide us when we look to find other projects to advocate for.”

“Thank you to the community for your participation and for telling us what is most important to you. We look forward to working with you to influence and tell our story as we advocate on these important projects.”

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