

Key Plans for South Gippsland Adopted

At yesterday's Council meeting key plans for South Gippsland were adopted.

The suite of strategic documents will provide direction to Council and help to shape South Gippsland in-line with the expectations of our local community.

The plans adopted were:

- *Community Vision 2040*
- *Council Plan 2022-2026*
- *Long-Term Financial Plan 2022-2032*
- *Rating and Revenue Plan 2022-2026*
- *Budget 2022/23 – 2025/26*
- *Asset Plan 2022-2032*

In previous years each of these documents would have been created separately, but their development is now integrated in accordance with the *2020 Local Government Act*. This means that all of the plans are built alongside each other so that they fit together – and work together – when complete.

To ensure the plans would meet the expectations of the local South Gippsland community, Council embarked on its largest ever community engagement campaign. Between December 2021 and May 2022 over 3,500 people were consulted, providing Council with a thorough understanding of the key challenges and opportunities facing our local communities.

Feedback was given through the completion of online and hard copy surveys, a community panel, workshops, drop-in sessions, pop-up events and face-to-face meetings. All of the comments were weighted equally, regardless of how the feedback was submitted.

Two of the most significant documents in the suite of plans are the *Community Vision* and the *Council Plan*. The *Community Vision* describes our community's aspirations for the future of the municipality and

helps to guide decision making. When developing a Vision, the community is asked to help shape the Shire by imagining life in 2040, and to map out the aspirations and priorities that will help to us get there.

The *Council Plan* sits under the Vision and sets out the strategic objectives, priorities and indicators that Council will focus its resources toward. The *Council Plan* also contains the major initiatives for the 2022/23 financial year which will be funded in the *Budget 2022/23-2025/26*.

The newly adopted plans and a summary of the engagement process can be viewed online at:
<https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/>

Quotes attributable to South Gippsland Shire Council Mayor, Mohya Davies

Council Vision:

“Creating the Community Vision has taken months of engagement and deliberation to pull together, but it’s been worth it. We now have a document that has been driven by our community, and expresses their aspirations and priorities for our Shire over the next 20 years.”

“I would like to thank our 29 Community Vision panel participants for pulling together information and creating the Vision. I know how hard it is to make decisions with nine people around a Council table; 29 people having input into a Vision is a massive task. It was a major commitment but one that has created something we can be really proud of.”

Integrated Plans:

“It’s been an absolute pleasure and an honour to have been part of this process, especially in the role of Mayor. I have thoroughly enjoyed not only being involved in it but in having a behind the scenes look at the effort that went into this work.”

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