

Mayor's Message



Coastal Strategy Engagement

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Coastal Strategy engagement.

We saw a fantastic response from our community both in-person and online. It was great to see people taking the opportunity to let us know their thoughts on this important strategy for our region.

The feedback received will now inform the development of the draft Coastal Strategy, which will also be made available for further community feedback prior to formal adoption.

Council Meeting

Our first Council Meeting for 2023 was held this week – what a great feeling it is to be back.

Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting and the Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony, which was a very significant first for South Gippsland Shire Council.

I would also like to thank Daniel Weston from Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation for conducting the ceremony and so generously sharing his time and culture with us. This Council is committed to genuine engagement with all parts of the South Gippsland community.

I would like to note that we also received an apology from the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, who were invited to attend but were unable to make it on this occasion.

Planning Scheme Engagement

At the Council Meeting, we unanimously endorsed seeking feedback on the South Gippsland Planning Scheme Review.

I encourage residents and those who use the planning scheme regularly, such as developers, to provide your feedback online. While the entire document is a long read and quite complex, a range of summary documents have been prepared to support the community to read and understand the document. It is important that you look through it and let us know if there is anything missing or anything else you would like to see changed.

To provide your feedback before 15 March 2023, please visit

<https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/planning-scheme-review>

Temporary Reception Closure

Council's reception will be closed from Monday 20 February and reopen Monday 27 February. This is to allow some building works to occur, to ensure the building is safe and accessible for staff and the community.

The Customer Service team will still be available on the phones between 8.30am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday.

Events

The warmer weather is bringing out residents and visitors alike in South Gippsland.

Over the past few weeks, we've had the Mirboo North Italian Festa, the Korumburra Show and Meeniyar Garlic Festival providing a terrific opportunity to get together and celebrate our region and community. These events are always magnificent, but what is even more extraordinary is that most of the people who are part of them are volunteers. Thank you to our amazing volunteers for all that you do.

If you are looking for something to do, or want to support our volunteers, head along to the Foster Show on Saturday 25 February, Prom Coast Festival from 10 to 13 March, or the Loch Long Lunch on 19 March just to mention a few.

Snap Send Solve

I would like to remind everyone of the Snap Send Solve app. This is the best way for you to let us know of things that need attention or maintenance around the Shire. South Gippsland Shire is a geographically large place to manage and Council welcomes your assistance in identifying Council issues that need addressing.

You can download the app to your smart phone or visit www.snapsendsolve.com to lodge an issue online.

Cr Nathan Hersey – Mayor