

Mayor's Message



South Gippsland is a great place to live, work and enjoy. Council is interested to hear your thoughts on how we can improve the Shire and make it an even better place for the future.

Feedback is always welcome through your ward Councillors or through Council's website.

Council often seeks input on specific issues or documents on Your Say South Gippsland which can be accessed here: <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au>

General Local Law Review Engagement

Council is seeking your feedback to help develop a new General Local Law for South Gippsland.

The General Local Law must be updated every 10 years, and this new one must be adopted by next year.

Prior to this term of Council, a review was attempted in 2019, which caused a significant amount of community angst. This demonstrated that a bigger conversation was needed with our residents before we, as a new Council, revised the General Local Law. As a result, we are giving South Gippsland residents the opportunity to come on the journey with us by first helping us understand what is working or not working in the current Local Law, and then by reviewing the changes we suggest based on that feedback.

To provide your feedback, we have face-to-face opportunities as well as an online survey. All the information you need can be found online at <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au>

Rural and Regional Planning Conference

Last week I attended the Municipal Association of Victoria's (MAV) Rural and Regional Planning Conference in Marysville. Alongside Council staff, the conference was an important forum to hear the opportunities and issues being faced by rural and regional Victoria. These included issues around the use and protection of agricultural land, housing, renewable energy, and touched on the impact of planning reform and policy change.

This was a great opportunity to continue to collaborate with people from all across Victoria and build relationships with our colleagues from other Councils.

Nyora Community Plan Session

Many communities across South Gippsland are currently reviewing their community plans, including Nyora. Residents are invited to come along to join the conversation about the future of their town.

If you live in Nyora, I encourage you to head along to Nyora Hall on Tuesday 20 June at 6.00pm for a sausage sizzle prior to the meeting starting at 6.30pm. If you can't make it but want to share your thoughts, you can email nyorahall3987@outlook.com.au

You can also come along from 4.30pm to 6.30pm to provide feedback on the General Local Law.

Events on this Long Weekend

The long weekend sees many visitors come to our region to enjoy what we have to offer. It is also a great opportunity for those of us who are lucky enough to call South Gippsland home to explore our own backyard or attend events that are happening across the weekend.

The Loch Food and Wine Festival will be on Sunday 11 June from 10.00am with the Winter Market to take place during the day as well. Once you've had a wander through the Festival, you could even go to Coal Creek in Korumburra for the Southern Lights Festival – gates open at 3.00pm with entertainment kicking off from 4.00pm.

To see what else might be happening in South Gippsland on the long weekend, or to register your event, please visit <https://visitsouthgippsland.com.au>

Volunteering

I would like to add my personal and sincere thanks to all who volunteer in our community.

According to the 2021 ABS figures, volunteering in South Gippsland is higher than the state average. In South Gippsland, 22.3% of our residents' volunteer, compared to 17.3% in regional Victoria, 13.3% in Victoria and 14.1% across Australia.

You know who you are and others know you make a difference. Thank you!

Cr Nathan Hersey – Mayor