

Mayor's Message



Community Grants

From 1 July, the second round of the 2023 Community Grants program will be open for applications.

This is a great opportunity to receive funding from Council for your project, equipment, planning and development reports, and festival or event.

For more information and to apply, please visit www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants

For tailored advice, I also encourage you to call or email Sophie Bolding, Community Strengthening Officer on 5662 9200 or sophie.bolding@southgippsland.vic.gov.au

General Local Law Review

Thank you to those who attended the pop-ups around South Gippsland. The next step is to collate the information and develop a new Local Law informed by the feedback we received. The updated Local Law will then be available for a further round of community review.

King's Birthday Honours 2023

I would like to extend my personal congratulations to three South Gippsland residents who received a Medal for the Order of Australia (OAM) on 12 June.

Cyril Payne, Gilbert Freeman and Dr. Meredith Freeman were all awarded an OAM. These committed and active locals demonstrate an unwavering commitment to their community and making South Gippsland a better place for us all to live. Thank you!

Canberra Advocacy

Along with the Chief Executive Officer, Deputy Mayor, I headed up to Canberra to attend the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly. We took this opportunity to meet with some of our federal government colleagues.

We spoke with a representative from the Office of the Shadow Minister for Communication regarding mobile and internet blackspots in South Gippsland that desperately need attention, the importance of connectivity for our businesses and in times of emergency and large events. Being connected is extremely important and it needs to be front-of-mind that these blackspots get fixed.

It was a productive meeting with the Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, Senator the Honourable Bridget McKenzie MP, about roads and the future use of the Barry Beach port. The South Gippsland Shire Council are concerned about the diminished road funding

and the problems this is causing for our region, particularly as roads are being used more for freight. This will only continue to increase as the offshore wind development progresses. We cannot be forgotten when funding for road betterment and improvement becomes available.

June Council Meeting

Wednesday 28 June will be our last meeting for this financial year, and as such we will be considering the Draft 2023/24 Budget, Council Plan initiatives and Long-Term Financial Plan. Starting at 2.00pm, you can come along to the Council Chambers in Leongatha or watch whenever you like by visiting:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live

Cr Nathan Hersey – Mayor