

# Mayor's Message



## **Community Engagement**

Thank you to those who participated in the engagement opportunities for the Venus Bay and Sandy Point Paths & Trails, and also for the Leongatha Railway Precinct Mural. It is terrific to see people showing up and shaping South Gippsland.

A reminder that the draft Coastal Strategy is out for engagement until Sunday 6 August. This draft Strategy has been put together based on the feedback received during the initial round of consultation and details the work to mitigate coastal hazards to protect our communities and environment. It also details how we can work with our community and key stakeholders along the way.

To provide your feedback, please visit Your Say South Gippsland at:

<https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au>

## **One Gippsland Meeting with Minister Shing**

Last week, along with our Chief Executive Officer Kerry Ellis, I joined other One Gippsland representatives in a meeting with Minister Harriet Shing to discuss potential opportunities for our region following the recent cancellation of the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

While South Gippsland was not going to be directly involved in hosting the competitions, it was expected that we would see significant visitor investment and attraction opportunities. Council has shared the disappointment at the loss of this major regional opportunity.

In saying that, we are optimistic that South Gippsland will be included in the Victorian Government's promised \$2 billion regional support package. We are particularly looking for support for tourism and housing, as they would be in line with our Council Plan.

This meeting is further evidence of the positive relationships that have been built with the State Government and highlights why they are so important.

We also took the opportunity to extend an invitation to Minister Shing to meet with Councillors regarding the potential funding and other matters that are important to our region.

## **Strzelecki Ward Councillor Catch Ups**

Three Councillor Catch Ups were held on Saturday 22 July and Sunday 23 July. Thank you to those who came along and spoke with Cr Felton and Cr Keerie.

Just a reminder that there are two opportunities coming up on 11 August in Poowong and Nyora. These will be from 12.00pm to 1.30pm at Poowong Hall and 2.00pm to 3.00pm at the Nyora General Store.

We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Meet the Mayor and Deputy Mayor Sessions for August**

The Meet the Mayor sessions are back again on Tuesday 15 August.

Available time slots are between 10.00am and 2.00pm, and will be 20-minutes long. They provide an opportunity for the community to chat with myself and Deputy Mayor Williams.

To book, please contact: [OfficeoftheCEO@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:OfficeoftheCEO@southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

Preference will be given to those who have not had an opportunity prior.

**Cr Nathan Hersey – Mayor**