

Mayor's Message



Youth and Young People

Investment and support for our future leaders was demonstrated through attendance of local industry mentors at the 'Inspiring Young People Luncheon'. I attended along with Cr Jenni Keerie to meet with Year 11 students from Korumburra Secondary College. The luncheon was an excellent opportunity to show students the career pathways available to them after schooling and share stories about the different paths that can be taken to reach personal goals.

Last week the Youth Council also had their second official meeting, bringing together a bright group of young minds who are passionate about South Gippsland.

Our young people are the workforce of the future and Council is committed to supporting programs that provide them with industry experience, exposure and pathways to achieve their goals.

Workforce Report

The release of Ninety Mile Consulting and Deakin University's *Regional Workforce: Attraction and Retention* report highlights the challenges we face in Gippsland in attracting and retaining qualified staff.

Chief Executive Officer Kerry Ellis, along with other local leaders, provided input to the report, which was launched in Leongatha.

The report highlights the complexity of attracting people to our region for work, including housing shortages and worker accommodation. This report will help inform ways Council can continue to support local industries.

Coastal Strategy Adopted

At the September Council Meeting, the Coastal Strategy was adopted. This adopting of the report concludes the extensive process, which included multiple stages of community engagement. Thank you to those who contributed to this Strategy and helped develop a critical document for the future of our coastal communities.

To view the meeting at any time, please visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live

Sporting Club Grants Program

A Program by the State Government has been announced to support grassroots sport and recreation organisations in an effort to encourage local communities to stay healthy and active.

Grants of up to \$1,000 are available for uniforms, equipment and resources that improve accessibility and engagement; up to \$2,000 for projects to strengthen volunteering and officiating; up to \$4,000 to deliver a new sport or recreation program; and up to \$750 to support athlete travel.

For more information on these grants or to apply before 12 October 2023, please visit

www.sport.vic.gov.au

Cr Nathan Hersey – Mayor