



Planning Award Success for South Gippsland Shire Council

Council is thrilled to have been awarded a State Award for Planning Excellence for the *South Gippsland Coastal Strategy*.

The award in the Climate Change and Resilience category, recognises the joint undertaking of Council and community to help protect our coastline and coastal townships.

The Strategy includes bold actions such as the removal of all coastal township greenfield areas from the planning scheme and restricting development to one dwelling per lot. It seeks to preserve our environment through nature-based adaptation like the Common Ground community initiative, and support land management through a township character study. It also guides how Council can work with the community to promote emergency safety and build social resilience.

To develop the Strategy a significant community engagement process was undertaken, which attracted responses from 827 people. The consultation included a survey and community pop-up events as well as an in-depth deliberative discussion where participants explored the impacts of limiting growth through the lens of the environment, infrastructure, population/community, and economy.

The awards were held in Melbourne and facilitated by the Planning Institute of Australia.

Quote attributable to Kerryn Ellis, CEO South Gippsland Shire Council:

"I am thrilled that South Gippsland Shire Council has been recognised with a State Award for Planning Excellence by the Planning Institute of Australia. There are a number of Local Government Areas (LGAs) facing similar coastal challenges, and South Gippsland Shire Council has taken a proactive step to publicly identify and plan, through the development of a dedicated Coastal Strategy, the actions we will undertake to ensure our coastal communities are resilient into the future.

I am proud of the work that has gone into the development of the Coastal Strategy and consider this award a shared achievement between Council staff, Councillors and our Community. Thank you to everyone who provided ideas and feedback."

Image 1: Lucas Gardiner accepting the award

Image 2: South Gippsland team with awards

Back (left to right): Stephen Fowkes, Nick Moore, Jareth Goss, Christine Legg, Chantal Lenthall, Kerryn Ellis, Lucas Gardiner, Ken Fraser, Ken Griffiths. Front: Robyn Begg.

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