

Mayor's Message



Hello South Gippsland.

The last Council Meeting of 2023 was held on Wednesday, with some great, constructive discussion between all Councillors. Thank you to those who took time out of their day to come along to the meeting and sit in the gallery.

Some of the key matters included a:

- Third round of consultation endorsed for the **Draft General Local Law 2024**;
- Draft Discussion Paper and engagement strategy for the future of **Coal Creek**;
- Re-establishment of the **Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee** via an Expression of Interest process; and
- **Grant** opportunities.

Everything we do at Council is for the community. A point of difference for this Councillor group is engaging with our community in a positive way.

We are bringing the decision making to you. We are increasing our transparency through open consultations and one-on-one catch up opportunities. We are more accessible and consistently encourage our community to get in touch and provide their feedback.

The **Draft General Local Law 2024** and the **Draft Coal Creek Discussion Paper** are both amazing opportunities for you to get involved. The Local Law is open now until 15 January 2024 – that is 30 days' worth of engagement! The Coal Creek Discussion Paper will be open from 22 January to 31 March 2024. The length of these engagements is proof that we want to hear from you.

Please read through the documents available and provide your clear, constructive feedback by visiting: <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au>

If you would like to watch the meeting back, you can do so by visiting Council's website.

Australia Day Celebrations

As the end of 2023 fast approaches, Australia Day will be upon us quickly.

Please keep a look out for your local events. This is a terrific opportunity to be with your fellow community members and celebrate our fabulous country. We are a proudly diverse region and it is

important we continue to extend a warm welcome to those who are new to our region, or even our country. We are all Australians and we all have a place here.

Council has also launched an Australia Day Photo Competition. I encourage you to submit a photo that fits the theme of “Australia Day: South Gippsland – Our People and Places”.

Submissions are welcome from people of all ages.

To find out more, please visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiadaycompetition

Discounted Pool Entry for Concession Card Holders

Summer is a great time to enjoy all of our pools across South Gippsland, so we have made it even easier and more affordable for Concession Card Holders to enjoy our pools.

The discount is available for those with a Health Care Card, valid Student Card, Veterans Affairs Card, Victorian Carers Card, Pension Card, Seniors Card or Companion Card.

I wish you all a very merry and safe Christmas.

Cr Clare Williams – Mayor