

Children and Families Plan Adopted

At last week's Council Meeting, South Gippsland Shire Council's Children and Families Plan was formally adopted.

The Children and Families Plan is a strategic document that outlines the direction and goals for improving outcomes for children aged 0 to 12 and their families in South Gippsland. It was developed through research, data analysis, and extensive stakeholder and community engagement which included the involvement of 691 local children. The community feedback was collected through online and hard copy surveys, pop-up engagement activities, discussions, meetings and workshops. After collating information about our children and families the plan was developed with a focus on five key themes:

- Welcoming and inclusive places and spaces for children and families.
- Accessible, inclusive, and responsive services for children and families.
- Thriving children and families through prevention and early intervention.
- Connected and engaged children and families in their local community.
- Partnerships and collaboration to strengthen outcomes for children and families.

The Plan provides a framework for Council, service providers, Government agencies and the community to work together to support children and families in reaching their full potential.

Following the Children and Families Plan, an action plan will be developed and implemented to achieve the key themes.

Quote attributable to Cr Clare Williams, Mayor South Gippsland Shire Council:

"The Children and Families Plan is a road map for children and family betterment in South Gippsland. This Plan could not have been developed without thorough collaboration with our community. The extensive engagement process with our local children, families and service providers had enabled us to understand what is needed in South Gippsland to allow our youngest residents and their families to thrive. Moving forward, the Plan will help drive action for Council to provide better services and environments for our valued community members."

