

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

# Unsightly Properties

Clause 33 of the General Local Law 2024



A property can become unsightly when it is not regularly or effectively maintained. Whether the property is occupied or not, it should be kept free of things such as long grass and overgrown vegetation, noxious weeds, rubbish and waste, or disused machinery and equipment. Properties are deemed a danger if they pose a safety risk to any person (including yourself), animals or other properties.

View the clause by visiting: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/localaw](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/localaw)

## Our Approach to Unsightly Properties

When determining whether a property is unsightly, Council Officers will assess whether it is in keeping with the amenity of the surrounding area or proving detrimental. The majority of unsightly property issues raised with us come from concerned neighbours and community members, who feel the property is impacting negatively on the neighbourhood.

## How to Report an Unsightly Property

You can report to Council by:

 (03) 5662 9200

 [council@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:council@southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

You can also use Snap Send Solve.



**South Gippsland**  
Shire Council

## Actions

If Council Officers determine that your property is unsightly or dangerous, you will be given a Notice to Comply. This will include the works that need to be done and the date they need to be done by. If you need any clarification or an extension of time, please contact Council before the due date to discuss.

Examples of required works could be mowing grass, trimming vegetation, removing rubbish or items, securing buildings or the site to restrict access.

## Tips and Hints

What you can do to avoid your property from becoming unsightly include:

- ✔ Regularly maintain your garden and lawn.
- ✔ Store goods out of sight in a garage or shed (if appropriate).
- ✔ Put waste and recycling in your kerbside bin, organise a skip bin or take excess rubbish to a Transfer Station.
- ✔ Take unwanted goods to an Op Shop if they are in good used condition.

## Possible Penalties

Our first priority is to work with you to achieve compliance. However, if you fail to do the work required, or continue to allow your property to be unsightly or dangerous, Officers may take enforcement action.

### **Penalty for allowing your property to be unsightly or dangerous:**

Three penalty units (\$611 for 2025/26).

### **Penalty for failing to comply with a Notice to Comply:**

Five penalty units (\$1,018 for 2025/26).

Additionally, if Council completes the required works due to non-compliance, the cost of the contractor plus an administration fee will be added to the property as compulsory works charges.

## SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

9 Smith Street (Private Bag 4) Leongatha VIC 3953  
5662 9200  
council@southgippsland.vic.gov.au  
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au  
www.facebook.com/southgippslandshirecouncil



**South Gippsland**  
Shire Council