

Council strengthens partnership with South Gippsland Landcare Network

At Wednesday's meeting, Council endorsed a Memorandum of Understanding between South Gippsland Shire Council and the South Gippsland Shire Landcare Network. The MoU formalises a long-standing partnership that has delivered many natural resource management education programs and revegetation events across South Gippsland.

The MoU outlines shared goals including:

- Supporting sustainable land use and agriculture
- Managing pest plants and animals
- Enhancing native vegetation and habitat
- Improving water quality
- Promoting biodiversity and conservation practices

The agreement enables both organisations to share resources for greater operational efficiency when caring for South Gippsland's natural resources. Council will provide access to public land, works crews, and equipment, while Landcare contributes a dedicated volunteer base, community networks, and access to external funding.

Each year, a joint Action Plan will guide activities, with Council committing \$50,000 annually over the three-year agreement. Landcare will report on outcomes through bi-monthly meeting updates, an annual report and a mid-year and end-of-year update to Councillors. The MoU with Landcare is an action of the 2022 - 2026 Council Plan.

Together, Council and Landcare are working to keep South Gippsland's farmland productive and its environment thriving.

Quote attributable to Cr John Schelling, Mayor of South Gippsland Shire Council

"Council and Landcare share a deep commitment to protecting and enhancing South Gippsland's natural environment. By working together, we're making sure South Gippsland stays a great place to farm, live, and enjoy the natural beauty around us."

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