



**South Gippsland**  
Shire Council

## South Gippsland Shire Council News

### Share Your Thoughts on the Draft 2026/27 Budget

The Draft 2026/27 Budget is now available for community feedback.

Council began preparing this budget early, with community engagement taking place at the very start of the process in late 2025. This early consultation gave South Gippsland residents the opportunity to help shape projects from the outset.

Unfortunately, due to events on the other side of the world, costs have risen dramatically in recent weeks, particularly the cost of fuel, and this has put pressure on Council's operating environment and the cost of delivering core services and current infrastructure projects.

As a result, Council has made the decision to reframe the Budget, limiting spending on new initiatives to focus on maintaining the services our community relies on. This more conservative approach will allow us to deliver key

projects while protecting Council's long-term financial sustainability.

The budget provides funding for meaningful outcomes, including:

- A \$24 million capital works program to progress important renewal projects.
- The first stage of the Region Precincts and Partnerships Program, a \$4.7 million Australian Government-funded initiative being delivered in partnership with Wellington Shire Council.
- Economic Development and Visitor Economy Strategy, to be delivered in-house to achieve cost savings.

Feedback closes Sunday 3 May. To review the draft Budget and provide feedback, please visit:

[yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au](https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

## Business Breakfast



Join us for a morning of networking and business insights at the South Gippsland Business Breakfast.

**When:** Thursday 30 April.

**Where:** Space47, 47 McCartin Street, Leongatha

**Time:** 7.00am - 9.30am.

Enjoy a delicious breakfast while hearing from guest speaker Despina Karatzias, Founder of the Institute of Excellence and a highly regarded tourism and small business expert.

Despina will share insights on growth and development, delivering practical takeaways you can apply immediately to your business.

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 20 May at 2.00pm.

Details will be available on Council's website:

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/councilmeetings](https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/councilmeetings)

To watch the meeting live or when it suits you, visit:

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live](https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live)

### SUBSCRIBE TO IN THE KNOW

Sign up to Council's fortnightly e-newsletter to stay up to date with the latest news, events, job vacancies, community consultations and grants.

To subscribe, visit:

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/intheknow](https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/intheknow)

### FREE, CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS SUPPORT

Book a one-on-one mentoring session with qualified experts through South Gippsland Shire Council's partnership with Nex Business Farming Wellness.

Take a step back, check your business health and get practical support to tackle current challenges.

To book a free session, please visit:

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/business\\_support](https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/business_support)

### IMMUNISATION SESSIONS

**When:** Thursday 23 April, 9.30am - 11.30am.

**Where:** Leongatha Early Learning Centre.

For more information or to book your session, visit:

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/immunisation](https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/immunisation)

### CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

Join us for a Candlelight Vigil on Wednesday 7 May to honour and remember those whose lives have been lost due to domestic and family violence.

**When:** Wednesday 6 May 2026.

**Where:** The grassed area between the Council office at 9 Smith Street and Leongatha Memorial Hall.

**Time:** 6.30pm to 7.30pm.

### CONTACT US

9 Smith Street, Leongatha

03 5662 9200

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au](https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au)