

Mayor Message



*South Gippsland
Shire Council*

With a very large geographical shire and a relatively small population, every year Council works to balance the needs of the community within the budget, delivering for our people.

I am very proud of the effort of Council has put in over the past couple of months – working alongside our professional and knowledgeable staff – to adjust the budget to meet the current economic circumstances.

While we have had to put a few projects on hold, with careful planning, we have been able to deliver a budget that remains balanced, responsible and that continues to give us the capacity to provide all the services the community expects.

At this stage, the budget we adopted last Wednesday is a draft – now it's over to you!

Your input each year is invaluable in ensuring that we are truly meeting the needs and expectations of our residents and ratepayers. You can provide your feedback at <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au>

Business Fuel Situation Survey

Council is undertaking a Fuel Situation Survey to better understand how rising fuel prices are impacting businesses across South Gippsland. The feedback we receive will help to us to have a clear understanding of what's happening on the ground and where we can focus our advocacy efforts. We are hearing lots of anecdotal evidence about delivery costs, running expenses, threats to next year's crops, etc. What we need to work on your behalf is credible data and input from community and businesses. The survey is anonymous and can be completed at: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/fuel-survey

Advocacy

We advocate to many people in positions of influence in State and Federal Government, to leaders of industry here and overseas, to peak bodies and other significant organisations, on behalf of South Gippsland and our people. Councillors know it as an important part of our role. We get to speak on behalf of the community to ensure that South Gippsland continues to be recognised by influencers and decision makers, so our region and its people receive the best possible outcomes.



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It was a pleasure this week to have a very constructive meeting with our federal representative, Mary Aldred MP, who shared some valuable insights and listened to our concerns and views on a range of local issues, that can now be better pursued in the federal Parliament. Thank you to Mary for the opportunity.

Community Satisfaction Survey

Some of you will have recently received an email asking you to participate in this year's Community Satisfaction Survey. A selection of residents and ratepayers are selected, which is entirely randomly generated. Completing the survey won't take long and the feedback you give helps us to better understand how we're performing.

Circle of Security Parenting Program

The Circle of Security Parenting Program is a free 8-week program that helps you make sense of your child's emotional needs and deepen your connection. Based on decades of research, this program supports stronger, more secure parent-child relationships. The focus of this program is for parents and guardians with children from birth to five years. For more information, please contact the Maternal Child Health team on 5662 9294 or at mch@southgippsland.vic.gov.au