

Mayor's Message



*South Gippsland
Shire Council*

Community Feedback Opportunities

There are currently two significant pieces of work open for community feedback.

The first is the Draft Access and Inclusion Plan, which provides a framework to guide Council's work over the next four years as we continue embedding accessibility and inclusion across our organisation, services and public spaces.

The second is Draft Amendment C135sgip which proposes changes to the South Gippsland Planning Scheme to reflect the findings of flood studies that have been undertaken by the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority. Council's intent is to ensure that everyone has access to current and accurate flood information to support informed decision-making about future land use.

Heritage Study

Thank you to everyone who participated in one of the four information sessions on the proposed Heritage Precincts. The sessions have been a great forum to hear community concerns and to provide important information to affected residents – it's not too late to ask questions or provide input and you can still speak with council's planning team or participate in the future community engagement on local heritage.

Purple Glass Bins

At the Council Meeting I tabled a Council resolution concerning the introduction of compulsory glass-only purple bins. South Gippsland is a large and diverse municipality – and Council is committed to delivering waste services that reflect and support the needs of our communities.

Council supports strong recycling initiatives; however, we are seeking greater flexibility for local governments to determine the most practical, cost-effective and locally appropriate ways to recover glass. Council has concerns that the case for a purple bin doesn't stack up for South Gippsland, so we will be taking our case up with the Minister.



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Organisation and Financial Performance

Council's third quarter performance report was tabled at this month's Council Meeting. The report demonstrates strong organisational performance, sound financial stewardship and continued progress on delivering the priorities identified in our Council Plan.

All 30 Annual Actions adopted for 2025/26 remain on track for completion by the end of the financial year. This reflects Council's continued focus on delivering outcomes for our communities while maintaining a strong financial position.

The report also highlights the breadth of work underway across the shire, from strategic planning and economic development to youth services, infrastructure planning, community resilience and heritage protection.

Fish Creek Recreation Reserve

Council has approved a lease for land at John Terrill Park, which will allow the Fish Creek Football Netball Club to proceed with the construction of a new building for club rooms and community use. Council also agreed to purchase land at 47A Falls Road to host a new on-site wastewater management system that will service not only the new pavilion but also the local scout hall, bowling club and pre-school.

Street Trees

Street trees provide environmental, social, and economic benefits, including reducing urban heat by up to 20 degrees, lower energy costs, and even increasing property values. They filter stormwater runoff, improve air quality, provide habitat for native fauna, enhance amenity and community well-being, and trees contribute to the distinctive character of our townships and landscape. Council plants street trees each year.

If you do not have a street tree on your nature strip and would like one, you can contact Council to request one on 56629200.