

Draft Access and Inclusion Action Plan 2026–2030

South Gippsland Shire Council is inviting community feedback on its Draft Access and Inclusion Action Plan 2026–2030, which aims to create a more inclusive, accessible and equitable South Gippsland for all community members.

The draft Plan was presented to Council at its May Council Meeting, with Councillors endorsing the commencement of a four-week community feedback program from 25 May 2026.

The Access and Inclusion Action Plan supports Council to identify, reduce and prevent barriers that affect people's ability to participate fully in community life.

Also known as a Disability Action Plan, the document is a legislative requirement under section 38 of the *Victorian Disability Act 2006* and outlines Council's commitment to improving accessibility and inclusion across its operations, facilities, programs and services.

The Plan has been informed by people with lived experience in addition to significant input from Council's Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee. The Plan also factors in feedback received through consultation across all the teams within the organisation.

The draft Access and Inclusion Action Plan includes four key priority areas:

- Communication and Engagement
- Council Environments that Support Inclusion
- Healthy, Active and Connected Living
- Inclusion, Safety and Fairness

Key actions proposed in the Plan include:

- Improving the accessibility and clarity of Council communications and information.
- Strengthening inclusive community engagement processes.
- Ensuring Council-owned places, spaces and infrastructure support accessibility and universal

access.

- Improving accessibility across roads, paths and signage.
- Supporting inclusive sport, recreation, arts and community participation opportunities.
- Strengthening inclusive workforce practices and organisational capability.
- Promoting safety, inclusion and respect through accessible services, policies and awareness initiatives.

The Plan also recognises that barriers to participation may be experienced not only by people with disability, but also by their families and carers, and others who face physical, social, cultural, economic or systemic barriers to inclusion.

Community members are encouraged to review the draft Plan and provide feedback during the consultation period.

More information about the Draft Access and Inclusion Action Plan is available at:

<https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/>

This page includes:

- A copy of the Draft Access and Inclusion Action Plan 2026–2030.
- Information about the community feedback program.
- Details on how to make a submission.

Following the consultation period, Council will receive a further report summarising community feedback and any recommended amendments to the draft Plan.

Quote attributable to South Gippsland Mayor, Cr Nathan Hersey:

“South Gippsland Shire Council is committed to building a community where everyone feels welcome, valued and able to participate fully in community life.

“This Draft Access and Inclusion Action Plan provides a clear 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.

“We encourage community members to review the draft Plan and share their feedback to help shape a more inclusive South Gippsland.”