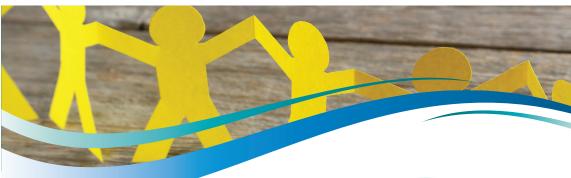
Attachment 2.3.1 Agenda - 22 April 2020



SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

# COVID-19 Community Support Package

### Council is proposing a \$2M COVID-19 Community Support Package for South Gippsland.

The package aims to provide support for our community and stimulus for our local economy both during and after the COVID-19 event.

The package will be delivered by a dedicated project management team in consultation with key stakeholder groups including the Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMPC) and the Business Emergency Leadership Group (BELG) to ensure the actions are best placed to deliver real outcomes for South Gippsland.

The initiatives listed here will evolve as the impacts of the pandemic are determined.

They will provide support in three core areas: health, connection and innovation and address the needs of residents, businesses and the local community.

South Gippsland Shire Council Ordinary Meeting of Council No. 444 - 22 April 2020

#### Health

Address the social, mental and physical health impacts of isolation on the community, including through outreach and support programs.

#### Connection

Connecting people, businesses, communitiesand industries. Includes initiatives to improve communication, community connectedness and social resilience.

#### Innovation

Doing things new and differently. Empower South Gippsland businesses, community and cultural sectors to creatively respond to the impact of COVID19.

### **PACKAGE INCLUSIONS**



### Residents

- Introduction of a COVID-19 Pandemic Hardship Policy to support residents having trouble making rates payments
- · A subsidised flu vaccine program
- Delivery of mental health support programs for residents

### **Business**

- Deferral of rates on a interest-free basis to impacted businesses
- · Waiving of some business permit fees
- The establishment of business support programs including a dedicated business grants program
- Sustaining and increasing local procurement where possible and implementing rapid payment for contractors and suppliers

## Community

- Prioritising infrastructure programs
- Expansion of Community Grants
  (more grants awarded with broadened criteria)
- Development of a community outreach program in partnership with key agencies to provide community support