

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Integrated Planning Engagement Report



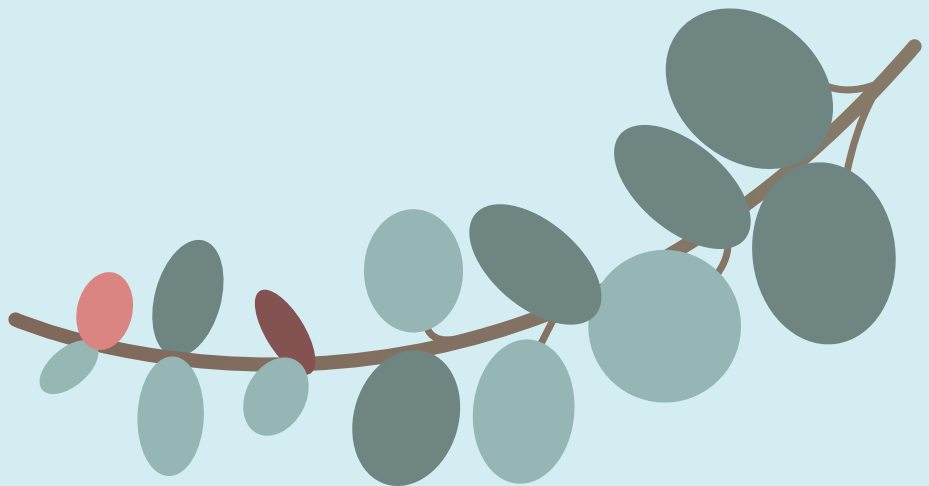
South Gippsland
Shire Council

Thank you

Council would like to acknowledge and thank everyone who contributed to the engagement process. Whether it was completing a survey, attending an engagement event or writing a submission – your feedback is appreciated.

Acknowledgment of Country

We acknowledge the Bunurong and Gunaikurnai people as the Traditional Custodians of South Gippsland and pay respect to their Elders, past, present, and future, for they hold the memories, traditions, culture, and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of Australia.



Purpose of this document

This report has been created as a summary of the engagement that has gone into the suite of Integrated Plans. It will provide details on how many people have engaged at each stage and outline what changes have been made to the Plans as a result of the feedback.



Coffee with a Councillor – Tarwin Lower

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Message from the Mayor and Councillors

This report marks the end of what has been an exceptionally challenging and rewarding six months.

Once we became Councillors, we knew there was a lot of work to be done developing key plans for Council such as the Community Vision, Council Plan, Budget and Long Term Financial Plan. We were excited, yet nervous, as they are such important documents for the future of South Gippsland. But now we feel a sense of pride in what has been delivered and we are so thankful to our community for coming forward so strongly to share your thoughts and ideas. We are happy with the result and hope that they meet the needs of our community.

In this document, you will find a summary of the engagement we did, what we heard, and what we did about it. We believe that it is vital for us to close the loop with you all and illustrate exactly what we have done as a result of your feedback. Hopefully by reading this, you will feel empowered to continue engaging with Council on other matters knowing that your feedback is not going into a black hole and we will truly listen and make changes based on it.

There was one thing in particular that we heard a lot of during the engagement period that we want to address now, and that is the link between the Community Vision 2040 and the Council Plan.

For the Vision, we asked you to be aspirational, to think big and imagine what you would like South Gippsland to look like in 2040. From there, we asked what your priorities were in the here and now.

The Council Plan is the result of these two important community consultations plus taking the existing plan, short- and long-term budget and all the knowledge we bring from our communities as elected representatives and the legislative requirements. From that, we created a four-year plan.



Once again, we thank you for your feedback and hope you are as proud of these documents as we are.

Sincerely,

Councillors Mohya Davies (Mayor), Nathan Hersey (Deputy Mayor), Adrian Darakai, Mick Felton, Sarah Gilligan, Jenni Keerie, Scott Rae, John Schelling and Clare Williams.

Message from the CEO

Kerryn Ellis

Chief Executive Officer

South Gippsland Shire Council



Hello and welcome to the Engagement Summary Report for Council's 2022 Integrated Plans.

Integrated Planning is an important process for South Gippsland Shire Council, creating an opportunity for Councillors and Council staff to talk to our community about your aspirations for the future, and where you'd like Council to prioritise effort and resources. Developing our suite of integrated strategic plans simultaneously has shared the bigger picture with the community to ensure all of our plans work together in a cohesive way.

Development of this suite of strategic plans has involved community input at every step of the way. Councillors and Council staff alike invested a lot of time in developing data, discussion papers and draft plans to be ready for engagement. Then, we hit the road to hear exactly what you had to say.

This engagement process is the largest Council has ever embarked upon. We knew when starting this process back in late 2021 that it would be a complex undertaking, but one that we were confident we could complete by working in partnership with our community.

Without our hardworking and committed staff, Councillors and community, this would not have been possible, so thank you all for the part you played in this journey.

Please have a read through this document, that provides a comprehensive summary of what we heard and what was changed based on your feedback. This report represents an important part of the planning and community engagement process, closes the loop with you all and ensures Council is transparent in its decision-making.

What is Integrated Planning?

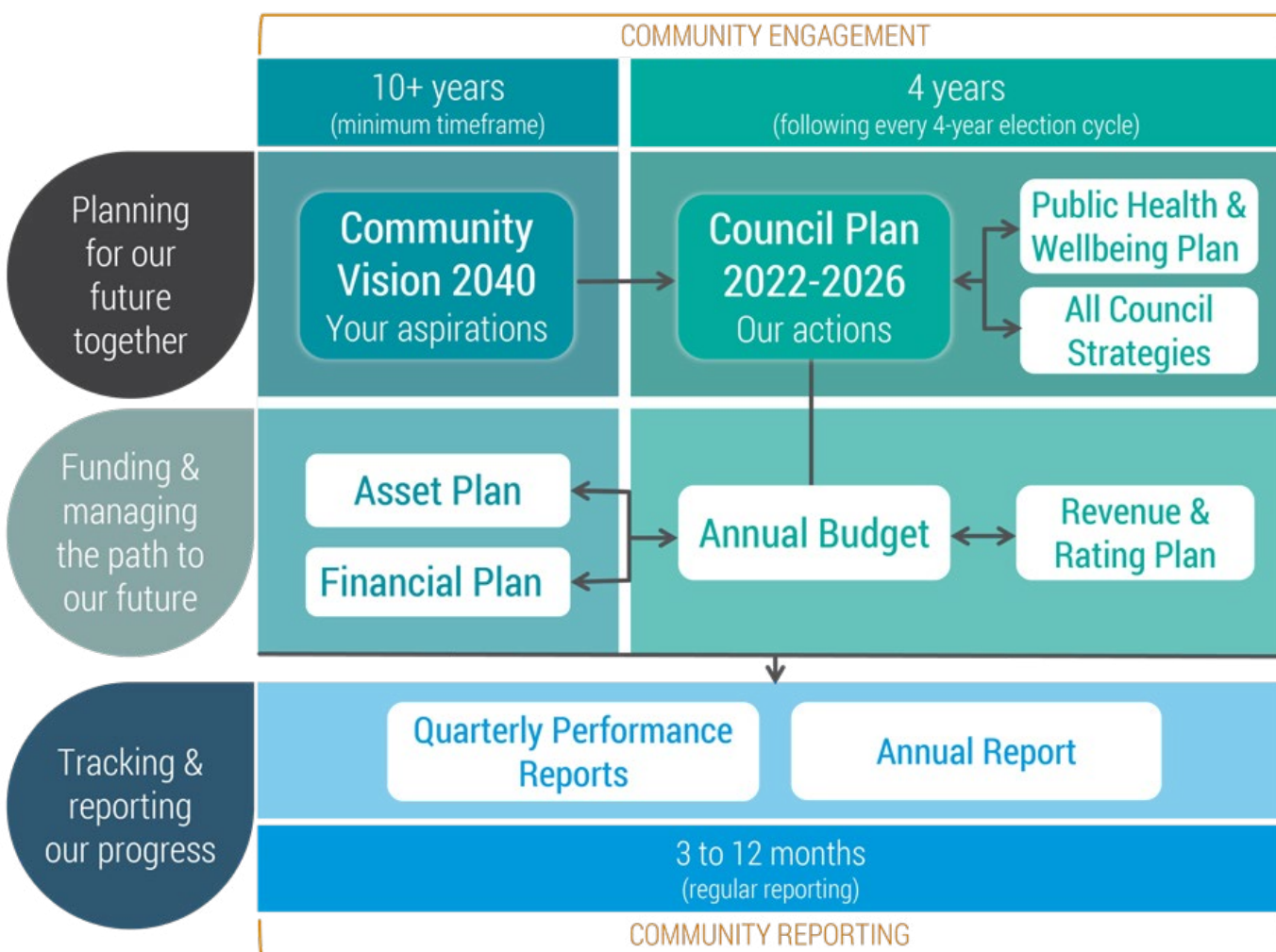
New provisions were created when the *Local Government Act* was reviewed and implemented in 2020, which require councils to take an integrated approach to strategic planning and reporting. This has allowed for greater flexibility in the way we design this strategic planning and reporting, while giving us clear guidelines to follow that ensure the community remains at the heart of our work.

At South Gippsland Shire Council, our Integrated Plans have included:

- Community Vision 2040.
- Council Plan 2022 - 2026.
- Annual Budget 2022/23 - 2025/26.
- Rating and Revenue Strategy 2022 - 2026.
- Domestic Wastewater Management Plan 2022 - 2026.
- Asset Management Plan 2022/23 - 2031/32.
- Long Term Financial Plan 2022/23 - 2031/32.

Council also decided to exhibit the draft *Arts, Culture and Creative Industries Strategy 2022 - 2026* during this period to use the feedback to shape this other important strategy. However, it will be reported on separately once the strategy has been endorsed.

To hold us accountable, Council must generate Organisational and Financial Performance Reports and Annual Reports to keep the community informed about our progress.



Background to the Engagement Process

The engagement process for these Integrated Plans was conducted in a staged manner to ensure our community had a number of opportunities to shape the strategic plans within this structure.

Details of how each stage worked towards the latest round of engagement can be found below.

Community Vision 2040 Initial Consultation

The first stage of engagement was held during December 2021 and January 2022. This stage focused on the Community Vision 2040. During this time, we:



Reached 928 community members.



Collated 2,939 comments.



Attended nine place based pop-ups and two school pop-ups.



Hosted an online forum and had an online survey.

Regional Profile Survey

The Regional Profile Survey was conducted during January and February 2022 and focussed on learning more about our community, including their likes, dislikes and regional priorities.

During this stage we:



Conducted 21 telephone in-depth interviews.



Distributed 7,856 paper surveys with 1,699 returned.



An online 'open access' survey was available and received 299 responses.



Identified six key themes that were naturally reflected in the Community Vision 2040 Initial Consultation.

Results Overview

Written
Submissions

45

Surveys
Completed

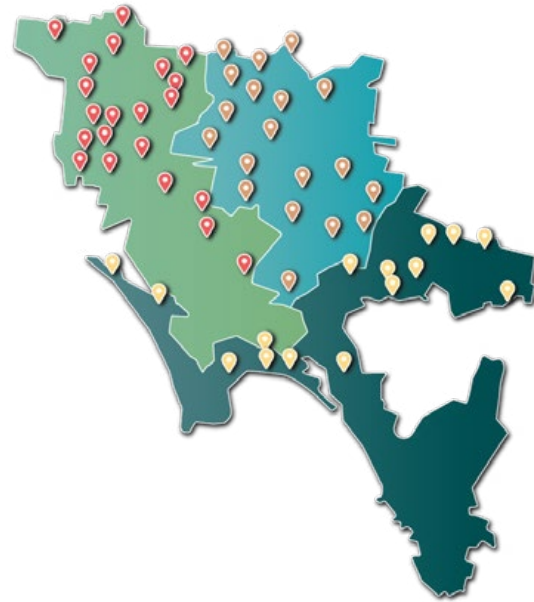
86

Total
Participants

403

Total
Engagement Sessions

13



Where our community engaged with us from

Your Say South Gippsland

Your Say South Gippsland is the online platform Council uses to gather community feedback.

During the Integrated Plans Engagement Period, we had a central page that proved a useful resource for the community. A screenshot of the page can be found below along with some key statistics during the 21 April to 15 May engagement period.



[Home](#) > [Provide Plan Feedback](#)

Provide Plan Feedback

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Email](#)

Council would like your feedback on key plans for South Gippsland to ensure they accurately reflect the needs of our community. These plans will influence how we provide services and facilities, both now and in the future.

Download Draft Plans

[Draft Council Plan 2022 - 2026 \(5.26 MB\) \(PDF\)](#)

[Draft Community Vision 2040 \(1.29 MB\) \(pdf\)](#)

Total
Page Visits

1,425

Total
Draft Plan Downloads

275

Site
Registrations

43

Engagement Period – April 21 to May 15 2022



Facebook Q&A



During this session, the idea was to answer questions from our community relating to our draft Integrated Plans. The session was well supported by the community who asked a wide range of questions. Some of what our community said is below and the full list of verbatim comments can be found in [Appendix 1](#) of this document.



Councillor Gilligan and Mayor Davies

“How will you support agriculture in the region?”

“Could we consider putting more Tesla or other EV charging stations? Maybe relevant for the economic plan?”

“What strategies are being considered to reduce dust levels on unsealed roads?”

“In the Community Vision Summary the graphic at the bottom of the page it details the Vision as 10 years and the Council Plan 4 years. How does this relate to 2040?”

Statistics

Total Commenters

27

Total Comments

145

Total Engagements on Post*

215

Total People Reached**

165

* Engagements on Facebook is made up of reactions, comments and shares.

** Reach is a measure of people who were exposed to the post.

Pop-up at Leongatha Junior Football



Sunday 24 April
3.30pm to 7.00pm
Leongatha Rec. Reserve



Statistics

Total Attendees

9



Councillors Keerie and Darakai

Pop-up at Toora & District v Stony Creek Football



Saturday 30 April
11.30am to 1.30pm
Toora Football Ground

At this pop-up, we asked participants to put a sticky dot on corflutes. Each corflute covered a Council Plan theme and had up to four priorities under each with a 'Yes / No' option next to it. To view the corflute designs and where participants placed their dots per initiative, see [Appendix 2](#).

Statistics

Total Attendees

8

Total Number of Dots in Agreement

38

Percentage

90%

Total Number of Dots in Disagreement

4

Percentage

10%

Coffee with a Councillor

These events were designed to be more intimate conversations between the community and Councillors. Like at the Toora Football match, Councillors utilised the corflutes and paper surveys to capture community feedback.

Meeniyian



Statistics (Meeniyian)

Total Attendees

10

Total Number of Dots in Agreement

69

Percentage

81%

Total Number of Dots in Disagreement

16

Percentage

19%

Loch



Tarwin Lower



Statistics (Loch & Tarwin Lower)

Total Attendees

29

Total Number of Dots in Agreement

376

Percentage

94%

Total Number of Dots in Disagreement

23

Percentage

6%



Mayor Davies and Councillor Williams in Tarwin Lower

Pop-up at Mirboo North Community Market



Saturday 30 April
8.00am to 10.00am
Baromi Park

Like events mentioned previously, Councillors and Council staff encouraged the use of the sticky dots with the corflutes to log the feedback of community members. While some did not place their dots, there was some great discussion, particularly about road conditions in and around Mirboo North.

Statistics

Total Attendees

16

Total Number of Dots in Agreement

108

Percentage

100%

Total Number of Dots in Disagreement

0

Percentage

0%

Pop-up at Kongwak Market



Sunday 8 May
10.00am to 12.00pm

This event was the largest number of people we were able to engage with at a session during the entire engagement period.

Statistics

Total Attendees

60

Total Number of Dots in Agreement

137

Percentage

94%

Total Number of Dots in Disagreement

8

Percentage

6%



Councillor Schelling encouraging participation at Mirboo North



Councillor Williams and Director Renae Littlejohn

Stakeholder Breakfast



Tuesday 10 May
8.00am to 9.00am
Council Chambers,
Leongatha



Mayor Davies addressing Stakeholder representatives

The Stakeholder Breakfast was an invitation-only event designed to capture the direct feedback of some of South Gippsland Shire Council's key stakeholders in relation to the themes in the Council Plan and Community Vision 2040.

For an event such as this, the corflutes and sticky dots were deemed inappropriate, so there were printed A3 sheets for each Council Plan objective. This allowed for more discussion around each objective and provided plenty of space to collate specific feedback.

Some of what our stakeholders told us at the Breakfast event can be found below. The full list of verbatim comments can be found in [Appendix 3](#) of this document.

Statistics

Total
Attendees

17

Total
Verbatim Comments

74

"Attracting allied health professionals to the region – co-location, not enough to go around, supports for at risk/ early intervention, making sure that those that don't have a voice have advocates, communication within services and between Council would help with duplication of effort."

"2040 vision, needs milestone along the way. Stronger connection to Council Plan and 2030 progress report review."

"Share with the community how we got to where we are – who was involved, build confidence."

"Consider zoning in commercial areas – preventing / minimising residential use."

Reconnect All-Ages Festival



Friday 29 April
4.00pm to 6.00pm
Leongatha Rec. Reserve

The Reconnect Festival was a Council-run event supported by The Hills Are Alive! It was targeted at young people who wanted to experience their first festival. This was a great opportunity for Council to engage with this younger demographic and hear their thoughts on our draft Integrated Plans.

Statistics

Total Attendees

11

Total Number of Dots in Agreement

235

Percentage

94%

Total Number of Dots in Disagreement

16

Percentage

6%

Fish Creek Tea Cosy Festival



Saturday 14 May
9.00am to 1.00pm

The Tea Cosy Festival was well supported by the community and we heard lots of feedback regarding the draft Arts, Culture and Creative Industries Strategy (not reported on in this document).

Statistics

Total Attendees

50

Total Number of Dots in Agreement

85

Percentage

99%

Total Number of Dots in Disagreement

1

Percentage

1%



Fun with dots, and plenty of engagement – Reconnect Festival



Mayor Davies talking with a community member – Fish Creek

Pop-up at Victorian Livestock Exchange



Friday 13 May
9.00am to 1.00pm
Koonwarra Sale Yards

After having the event postponed for a week, it was a good turnout at the sale which was one of the largest this year.

Engagement numbers were relatively low, but those that stopped by provided considered and valuable feedback.

Statistics

Total Attendees

8



Town Hall Drop-In Session



Thursday 5 May
4.30pm to 6.00pm
Coal Creek Community Park and Museum

This session was well attended by the Korumburra and surrounding community with many staying a while to chat about their thoughts with not only Councillors and Council staff, but each other as well.

Statistics

Total Attendees

27

Total Number of Dots in Agreement

117

Percentage

89%

Total Number of Dots in Disagreement

15

Percentage

11%



Councillor Rae and Mayor Davies and Staff at Koonwarra Sale Yards

Actions Based on Your Feedback



What We Heard

We heard lots of great feedback during the engagement period. All of this can be found in the [Appendix](#) of this report, but some of the observations of our Councillors include:

- There was strong support for all of the proposed objectives and where funding has been allocated.
- Our community showed strong interest in increasing investment in Arts and Culture.
- The environment, roads and health remain key issues in our community.
- There is a desire to see more support for volunteers and not-for-profit organisations, including community sport.
- There is also a desire to see greater and clearer alignment between the Community Vision 2040 and the Council Plan.



One of the Discussions at the Stakeholder Breakfast

What We Changed

Councillors reviewed all of the feedback from the engagement sessions, the submissions and the surveys. From this feedback, they made the following changes to the strategies:

- In the Council Plan, under the Healthy and Engaged Communities theme, we:
 - Added a new priority – “Support and celebrate our volunteers through community grants and National Volunteer Week.”
 - Adjusted the priority “Create places and spaces for people to connect and enjoy local activities, sports and leisure, community events and relaxing in our libraries, parks and gardens, and coastal areas” to be more specific. This now reads – “Support community sport and recreation groups to grow, to build our healthy communities and enhance community connections.”
 - Added a new initiative – “Implement the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan.”
- In the Council Plan, under the Economy and Industry theme we:
 - Added in \$50,000 to implement some actions from the Arts, Culture and Creative Industries Strategy.
- We have re-presented the Council Plan themes in alphabetical order to better demonstrate how they are all of equal priority.
- We have re-written the Vision in the Council Plan to make it clearer and sharper.
- We have redesigned our Council Plan and diagrams to make it clearer how the Community Vision and Council Plan align and inform the decisions of Council, and how they interact with other plans.



Councillor Workshop

Appendix



Leading with Integrity	Connecting our People and Places	Economy and Industry	Healthy and Engaged Communities	Protecting and Enhancing our Environment	Sustainable Growth
Agree and it's great news to hear SGSC is doing an advocacy strategy too! Sadly the absolute majority of my friends in Melbourne don't know the diversity in Gippsland let alone South Gippsland which to them is just Wilsons Prom. I am not saying we need to be a tourism destination. We just need to be really targeted and not try to be all things to all people cos we don't have the resource unfortunately (p.s. I met someone yesterday who have relatives living in Fish Creek so it does happen from time to time)	South Gippsland Shire Council Hi Mohya thank you for decoding the plan themes for me. Glad some money is being directed towards roads... what is the total roads budget please?	a place where people come to visit and want to stay.	Can u please financial help out South Gippsland BMX Club Inc. . Many volunteer hours have been put in by a few volunteers this is a great venue and sport to keep kids off the streets family to spend quality time together! What has been achieved so far is fantastic but for it to move forward to join the Victorian Bmx Racing circuit needs more help from the local Council and Community.	As a wildlife foster carer most of my rescues are in the single lane roads with high volumes of traffic driving at 100km. Venus Bay -Tarwin Lower Road. Inveloch road Fish Creek to Foster. We would love to see signage asking drivers to just be aware that Wildlife are out & about dusk & dawn. We acknowledge safety of drivers comes first yet slowing down to 80kmh drastically decreases the ability to slow down or avoid Wildlife	Would love to see some beautification projects in the Main Street of Welshpool to encourage people to support small businesses and open more shops similar to Foster and Toora
Vision plans and words are fine but where funds are spent is the real test of commitment and delivery. Will the council provide over the course of the 4 year council plan a yearly reinterpretation of annual expenditure based upon the five priority areas of the community vision?	What strategies are being considered to reduce dust levels on unsealed roads?	I am not sure if the last sentence of the vision statement referring to SG as a leading destination for people to visit and stay. If we were to use tourism and expansion of towns as tools we would need to back it up with infrastructure and service spending and/or being targeted. A aspirational but yet realistic clear target is missing here And we are surrounded by strong competitors eg Bass Coast East Gippsland etc. I imagine we could be a leader in something we just need to really articulate it and bring the people along.	Looking forward to progressing a strategy for the Tarwin Lower Community Health Centre! Would love an update.	Evening, regarding preservation of our precious Wildlife are there any future plans for more signage in high traffic areas where wildlife are constantly killed by cars & trucks ?	With regards to Venus bay (where I live) there doesn't seam to be much investment made. I am wondering about bike paths/roads (pot holes). Over the summer there's a lot of people walking down Canterbury Rd with no pathway at all.
Vision statement needs to be more succinct and focussed - at the moment it is trying to be all things to all people. Draft council plan themes need to include "how" you are going to deliver not just "what" you are looking to deliver. eg. "Efficient helpful and timely service provision" "Be an organisation that is easy to deal with" etc.	South Gippsland Shire Council my question was if council will provide the ranks at moment there is no incentive for taxi's to remain in local areas and with the expanding areas the community would benefit from it. The private providers can not install taxi ranks...	Hello! Can you please tell me what the main actions are in the Economic Development Strategy for the next 12 months? Thanks.	Thank you Cr. Sarah Gilligan I have identical questions to Nick Assender but one more? What happened to the new basketball court as part of the Jupiter Park master plan and what is the timeline?	Could we consider putting more Tesla or other EV charging stations? Maybe relevant for the economic plan?	Hello I was wondering if any landscaping/planting works will be done in the main st of Venus bay?Also car parking issues. I understand that there's a vacant block for parking but not many people know about it. Thanks, Nick

Leading with Integrity Attachment 2.1.2	Connecting our People and Places	Economy and Industry	Healthy and Engaged Communities	Protecting and Enhancing our Environment	Sustainable Growth Agenda - 29 June 2022
In relation to our strength: Farming or diversity of settlements within close proximity. These are mentioned in the plans on exhibition. If it's assumed that things like these are what set us apart from the other municipalities it would be great to get more directions from our plan on how we would like to go from here. In my humble opinion we could probably be more proactive (without discounting the work done in the background by people here). Councils like Wyndham has an advocacy strategy but even without something like that we should be able to clearly articulate succinctly what we want why and how to get there. I know this may be out of scope for this discussion. My apology if that's the case.	Hi, I don't know how to use this. Is it possible to have a gravel footpath in Victoria Street Toora parallel with the bitumen road so that the residents from Mill Street to Grip Road please????? It is TERRIBLY DANGEROUS to walk on the edge of the bitumen road leading a dog and pulling a shopping jeep and dodging the traffic especially the huge Vline bus!!!!!! Thanks	6 months to produce 6 substantive plans - well done! 27 days for community review disingenuous at best.	How will you support Mental Health in particular Youth Mental Health and the prevalence of suicide and drugs. So much of mental health budgets go to the big agencies not based in rural areas.	Hi can you please tell me which plan themes do the council's responsibilities of roads and rubbish/waste removal come under ?	Are there any plans to bring sewer/water/gas through Venus bay in the next 50years?
Integrated Plans The five priorities identified by the community in the Community Vision are not represented in the Council Plan. Why has the Council reinterpreted the themes in the Council Plan to present its strategic directions and priorities?			Nothing about nothing The CWA an volunteers that man opportunity shops have been keeping The villages an small towns alive for Years an All volunteers Please!!	One more question what role can South Gippsland Shire Council play in facilitating an emergency plan for the Venus Bay community including options for Places of Last Resort for first and second estate? Pls don't say it's up to the individual to have their own emergency plans. I think we all know that. But what's become evident following the CFA educational recently is that no one knows where to go in an emergency and the misinformation is potentially life threatening. Thank you so much.	
In the Community Vision Summary the graphic at the bottom of the page it details the Vision as 10 years and the Council Plan 4 years. How does this relate to 2040??			Where's Multiculturalism in draft ! Also Animal friendly environment ie Dogs whoops !	When is council going hold a review of their Local laws 2014 policy?	
			Very excited about the Korumburra Community Hub.	Effective and informed community-led, A clean and green destination, More trees on farms	

	Would council consider legislation to keep cats as pets inside only? Australia has the highest species loss worldwide. Other councils have introduced this to stop biodiversity loss. Also would you consider stopping the pound from giving stray cats new homes? It's a bold move but important for wildlife
	How will you support agriculture in the region?
	Good to see plans for weed and pest control on trails. Is there a vegetation management plan for the Great Southern Rail Trail to ensure careful management balancing weed control and native vegetation management?
	I read a couple of years ago that Council's stance on EV charging was to not install any. Has this position changed? There is a missed opportunity of luring tourists with EVs as they are becoming more affordable and popular. Partnering with Chargefox or Tesla would be beneficial.
	Would love to see environment in the council plan to be at the top like it is in the community vision statement. Was the council plan developed with the community vision at its core or were the two developed independently from one another?

Appendix 2 – Corflutes Total Dots

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Theme: Leading with integrity



What Council is proposing for 2022/23:

- Invest \$127,000 in Community Leadership Programs to strengthen community expertise and volunteering.
- Implement a Customer First Project, to improve the customer's experience.
- Develop and implement the 'Advocacy Strategy' including Council's Priority Projects.

Do you agree?

Yes

No

51.5

4.5

45

3

36.5

1.5

Engagement Results:

141 people said that Council should keep talking and engaging with the local community.

Facts and Figures

- 254 people registered to YourSay Council's online engagement platform.
- Council received \$30.273 million in grant funding for the 2019/20 financial year.



South Gippsland
Shire Council

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Theme: Connecting our people and places



What Council is proposing for 2022/23:

- Allocate an additional \$900,000 on road works to improve gravel road conditions, and to purchase plant equipment to maintain and protect our assets.
- Advocate to the State and Federal Government for increased funding to improve State managed roads.
- Advocate for connectivity improvements within the Shire, including telecommunications and transport.
- Allocate \$100,000 to undertake feasibility study for future pedestrian and bike paths in Venus Bay and Sandy Point.

Do you agree?

Yes

No

72	3
61	1
52.5	0.5
44	11

Engagement Results:

When asked 'What would make South Gippsland a better place to live, work and play?'

31% of respondents said road improvements.

23% of respondents ranked roads as their number one priority for South Gippsland.

Facts and Figures

Council manages:

- Over 800km of sealed roads equivalent to the distance between Melbourne to Sydney.
- Over 1300km of unsealed roads which is the distance between Leongatha and Port Augusta.
This doesn't include roads such as the South Gippsland Highway or Meeniyar Promontory Road or the Bass Highway which are managed by Regional Roads Victoria.
- It costs approximately \$500,000 to turn 1km of gravel road into sealed road.
- \$16.5M is allocated to road renewal and maintenance in Council's budget each year.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Theme: Economy and industry



What Council is proposing for 2022/23:

- Implement action plan items contained in the South Gippsland Visitor Economy, Economic Development and Great Southern Rail Trail Management Strategies.
- Contribute \$55,000 to attract and deliver events to boost visitation and the local economy.
- Bring together business, education and government to understand and support local priorities and opportunities

Do you agree?

Yes	No
64	1
60	6
52	1

Engagement Results:

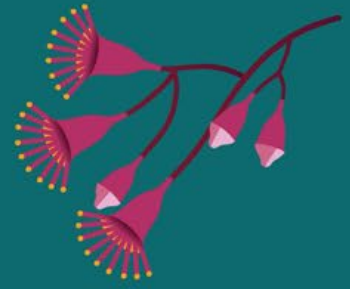
Economy and industry was mentioned 1,121 times in our Community Vision engagement.

Facts and Figures

- There are 3,700 businesses in South Gippsland that support 11,000 jobs.
- Our employment rate is 95.1%
- 1.2 million visitors come to our region each year, generating \$114 million for our local economy.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Theme: Protecting and enhancing our environment



What Council is proposing for 2022/23:

- Investigate improved waste management systems including adding Organics Waste to kerbside collection to divert waste away from landfill, and support the community to transition to a three-bin system.
- Develop a Tree Replacement Plan for trees removed by Council.
- Advocate for improved pest management and control including feral animals within the Shire.
- Partner with land managers, farmers and LandCare to develop and implement weed and pest mitigation programs.

Do you agree?

Yes	No
59	12
67	1
58	0
63	1

Engagement Results:

- 63% of people indicated that they loved our region's natural environment.
- Protecting the natural environment was ranked the second highest community priority.

Facts and Figures

By 2050 it is predicted South Gippsland can expect:

- Twice as many days over 35C.
- More frequent extreme weather including storms and heatwaves.
- Up to 16mm less rain per year.

Source: Victoria's Infrastructure Strategy 2021 - 25

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Theme: Healthy and engaged communities



What Council is proposing for 2022/23:

- Develop and implement the 2022–2026 Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and include Council's Disability Action Plan.
- Partner with the community to open the Korumburra Community Hub as a shared community space.
- Develop a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) in partnership with the Bunurong and Gunaikurnai people.

Do you agree?

Yes

No

67

5

51

5

47

7

Engagement Results:

When asked 'What do you like about South Gippsland'

63% of respondents said they liked the small communities.

44% liked the sense of community.

22% to 24% of people in each of the three Council wards participate in organised sport.

21% of people like to go to a sportsground to watch others play team sports.

Facts and Figures

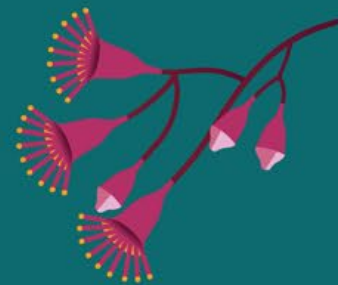
South Gippsland has:

- 26 early childhood centres
- 105 parks with playgrounds, rotundas and BBQs
- 72 recreation reserves.

Council commits around \$1.1 million into the operation of pools each year.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Theme: Sustainable growth



What Council is proposing for 2022/23:

- Protect the character of our coastal townships by spending \$60,000 to develop new Planning Scheme guidelines.
- Allocate \$50,000 to implement actions from the Industrial Land Supply Study, to encourage the investment and development of industrial land.
- Spend \$100,000 to undertake a comprehensive review of the South Gippsland Shire Planning Scheme to expertly review local Planning zones, overlays and policies to retain the look and feel of our unique townships while supporting future growth.
- Decrease the time taken for planning applications to be finalised.

Do you agree?

Yes

No

52	5
37	7
53.5	6.5
68	1

Engagement Results:

- 232 comments about retaining the look and feel of the community.
- 211 comments about growth and overdevelopment.
- Planning for infrastructure, land use and housing developments ranked as sixth highest community priority.

Facts and Figures

- The South Gippsland population is expected to grow by 19.6% reaching 35,982 in 2036.
- There were 288 new dwelling approvals in 2020/21, 102 more than in 2019/20.



South Gippsland
Shire Council

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

South Gippsland Vision Statement



"South Gippsland: sustainably adapting to protect and enhance our unique natural environment, towns and villages through community-led planning and initiatives.

We celebrate our diverse people, culture, environment, heritage, agriculture and industries while empowering positive change through education and action. We're a leading destination, a place where people come to visit and want to stay."

Do you agree?

Yes**No****9****0**

South Gippsland
Shire Council

Appendix 3 – Stakeholder Breakfast Verbatim Comments

Attachment 2.1.2

Agenda - 29 June 2022

Leading with Integrity	Connecting our People and Places	Economy and Industry	Healthy and Engaged Communities	Protecting and Enhancing our Environment	Sustainable Growth
Advocacy Strategy - where is it? Can we see it? What does it cover?	People and Place - missing community building/ connection - perhaps misnamed.	Plans will direct the resources of Council - therefore it is important they are right.	99% volunteers meet monthly, why only 3 weeks to respond?	Nothing about renewables/ micro-grid/ batteries. NEED IT	Retain township character.
Community Vision - fantastic!	Support investment in roads.	Attracting allied health professionals to the region - co-location, not enough to go around, supports for at risk/ early intervention, making sure that those that don't have a voice have advocates, communication within services and between Council would help with duplication of effort.	Collaboration not consultation.	Arts link to sustainability	Consider block sizes - don't want to be like urban areas.
Missing the connection to the Vision.	Consider detailed lists of projects within programs - individual roads, footpaths etc.	Investment in an Arts facility.	Community Leadership Program - gobsmacked by resources, taken skills back to group, captured landcare, more engaged with Council, break down silos, connection ongoing.	Linkages between public art and public spaces with solar panels.	Consider zoning in commercial areas - preventing / minimising residential use.
Disconnect between Council Plan and Vision - appear to oppose each other.	Innovation in approach to public transport (currently delivered by volunteers).	Communicate! More money into Comms and South Gippsland branding as a place.	Active ageing	Meeniyen - 6 x 150 metre mural behind shops - solar panels on top - power main street in Meeniyen	Development of Tarwin Lower.
Shire-wide communication - trying to find who to talk to turns people away. Profiles on the website?	Clarity of Council's role in community transport.	CC (Coal Creek?) Infrastructure does not reflect what we need right now.	Don't be afraid if our kids go away because they will come back with new knowledge and skills.	What is Council's Carbon plan.	Area is becoming expensive for young people.
Meeniyen Community Hall - have they been approached on strategy.	Road safety issues on gravel.	Economy and Industry theme needs more explanation. Doesn't mean much on its own.	Great to engage early.	Vision - climate change - in the plan, climate only mentioned once. EV, Council Carbon Plan - by 2030 carbon neutral.	Affordable housing.
Community vision - very positive.	Creating connection.	Annual round table - positive united front.	Volunteer groups - how to connect, strength in that.	Good strategy development.	Geographical diversity and environment - preserve, maximise and promote.
Vision not so consistent with the Council Plan.	Link between public/ community transport and health services.	Rail Trail is very important - cycle path development.	What happens to the Korumburra gallery - station building potential.	Road materials investigation (recycled products).	Protect what's unique about our Shire.

Leading with Integrity Attachment 2.1.2	Connecting our People and Places	Economy and Industry	Healthy and Engaged Communities	Protecting and Enhancing our Environment	Sustainable Growth Agenda - 29 June 2022
Interact with the Council process to get things on the agenda.	Transport linkages to work/ study.	Community wealth building.	Encourage and support volunteerism. Connecting organisations together. Consider workplaces.	See expert/ diversity come through.	Leongatha is stalled compared to other townships, needs to grow. Rail station is an opp - arts!
Communication on issues.	Strategy around what inclusion means.	Refinance and investment.	Attracting allied health professionals to the region - co-location, not enough to go around, supports for at risk/ early intervention, making sure that those that don't have a voice have advocates, communication within services and between Council would help with duplication of effort.	Mitigation of climate change and actions Council's can take appear to be missing emphasis.	Housing key for future.
Partnerships: valued and reflected. Council to go out - have in Council Plan.	Connection across the townships and villages: what brings us together. Unite. Sharing.	Extending the tourism season across Winter. Winter Festival.	Halls network.	Wildlife corridors - preserving places.	
Vision - could it be more concise, remove the how elements and focus to what the community will be. Too long. Not accessible.		Representation of the arts/ events/ promotion in our What's on in SG SGST Article (weekly).	Need more in the plan on community plans.	Climate change was missing from the Council Plan?	
2040 vision, needs milestones along the way. Stronger connection to Council Plan and 2030 progress report review.		CBD in each town - shops stay open.	What is the role of the Community Strengthening team.	Needs more in climate change.	
Some continuity is needed in Vision. Don't change too frequently. Supported by adding actions to plans.		Keep visitors longer.	Money for maintaining Halls not owned by Council.	No mention of Council Carbon footprint.	
Articulate reporting and never timelines in docs. Clearer about purpose of Vision and how it fits with other docs and other agencies. Role of others.		Ongoing role for stakeholder, gps in leading implementation of the visitor lenses, eg health, transport or mixed.	Youth are passionate, get involved in activities they are vocal.	Electric vehicles - charging station.	
Lots of strong reinforcement and support for the general thrust of the Vision statement.		Workplace attraction: how to market ourselves and ensure there is housing available.	Share with the community how we got to where we are - who was involved, build confidence.	Preservation of natural fauna.	

Leading with Integrity Attachment 2.1.2	Connecting our People and Places	Economy and Industry	Healthy and Engaged Communities	Protecting and Enhancing our Environment	Sustainable Growth Agenda - 29 June 2022
Lots of new people in Shire, great that Vision reflects new community too.	Education and communication is key: share the story and tell it together. Make it clear and tangible. What roads are we doing? What projects? With who? Look at how we can do this for the Vision as well as Council Plan.	Importance of planning for young families in future. Appreciate unique role of young people as our future.	Rate rebates on preserving land.		
Multiple formats: video, one pager, plus long document.	Stronger support for business: workforce and housing post COVID. Credit for the contributor or business makes to fabric of our towns.	Appreciation of diversity and abilities. Reflection of indigenous community, representation in document. Cultural diversity. Young people.	Need to preserve natural environment that remains, as opposed to planted forestry and farm land.		
		Connecting our communities across the Shire, e.g. volunteer groups, business associations, community groups: connect across Shire. Tell story of Shire as a whole and an integrated story, not separate towns.			

Appendix 4 – Summarised Written Submissions

Agenda - 29 June 2022

Leading with Integrity	Connecting our People and Places	Economy and Industry	Healthy and Engaged Communities	Protecting and Enhancing our Environment	Sustainable Growth
Submission #3: Request for increased provision of background data to support all engagement activities. Specific mentions - Coal Creek, Leongatha Memorial Hall, Korumburra and Leongatha Railway Stations, Leongatha Early Learning Centre	Submission #1: Request analysis study to establish Mountain Bike Trail - Walkerville area, as first steps towards establishing a trail	Submission #23: Ability establish housing on farms to ease housing shortages and provide farm worker accommodation	Submission #2: Request modification to the Korumburra Railway Stations proposed works/plans - request playground, dining and preservation of historic relevance to the town.	Submission #6: Environmentally considerate policies need to underpin all other policy areas. Vision to include proactive work to reduce the speed of warming of our climate	Submission #19: Growth and Development in Leongatha - in particular the initiative of \$50,000 to implement actions from the Industrial Land Supply Study
Submission #5: Opinion raising concern the Budget document is incompatible with good governance and does not provide adequate information. Further concern is raised with borrowing money and placing Council in debt.	Submission #4: Request to seal Elmores Road Korumburra due to increased use, and how to resolve this.	Submission #24: A marine facility is needed at Port Welshpool	Submission #11: Support for the Meeniyan Hub, however requesting involvement in the design and planning to address local needs		Submission #39: The planning does not take into account the 'elephant in the room' of Climate Change. We are feeling the impacts of increasingly frequent and more extreme weather events as well as a change in rainfall patterns and temperature.
Submission #17: Leadership Program – question if this is needed when many other providers offer this type of program. Council could sponsor a few participants to join in other programs.	Submission #7: Request for advocacy to reduce the speed limit through Meeniyan township and for better progression in slowing vehicles as they enter and leave the town		Submission #12: Support for the Community Plans to be updated and utilised - Meeniyan		Submission #40: Concern raised that the Council Plan fails to proactively seize the opportunities available to the Shire and its community in relation to health and aged care, environmental tourism, regenerative farming, and renewable energy.
Submission #35: Council Plan does not state the full four year initiatives. It requires linkages to other plans - Sport and Recreation Strategy 2020-2030. Request a section focus specifically on Sport and Recreation. Strategic Plans contain confusing information regarding their duration of 4, 10 and 20 years. Asset Plan	Submission #8: Request for Ross Street Meeniyan to be sealed and for improved lighting.		Submission #13: Support for the Community Plans to be updated and utilised - Poowong		

Submission #38: Having analysed the 'Vision' and the 'Draft Plan', we believe that the 'Draft Plan' fails to adequately address the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considerable opportunities that a low carbon economy presents for the Shire and its residents. • Requirements of the Local Government Act 2020. • Intent and priorities embodied in the Community Vision 2040. • Short and medium-term initiatives in a clear and concise manner. • Risks that the Shire, as a business, faces from the impacts of climate change. • Legal and moral obligations Councillors and Council have to the residents of South Gippsland and future generations. 	Submission #9: Request installation of EV charging station to assist/support visitors with electric cars to visit the region.		Submission #21: The future of Coal Creek to be seen as a priority of Council to be invested in.		
Submission #41: Budget concerns in values in Waste Management, Building Maintenance, Leisure Centre Operations, GSRT, Fuels and Oils, Roads, Contract Payments. Asset Plan Comments	Submission #10: Request if the gradient to the underpass at Koonwarra can be reduced to improve access and for the disabled and those with mobility challenges.		Submission #22: Korumburra streetscape works are important - need to resolve the dog-leg and whole town needs some planning.		
Submission #42: Condition of the road for the 1.5km unsealed section of Korumburra South Road. The condition of this road varies depending on the weather and with increased traffic and size of vehicles on this road it has become too narrow and dangerous.	Submission #14: Request for Council to continue to improve the condition of sealed and gravel roads.		Submission #26: In the Disability Plan, actively allowing for people with learning differences like ADHD and Dyslexia - requiring one-on-one assistance.		
Submission #44: Submission to Council Vision, plan budget and other plans outlining concerns with the various plans.	Submission #15: Request for additional bike racks and signage in Loch township for the road cyclists that leave their bikes leaning against the shop fronts and block footpaths.		Submission #27: Revitalisation of Korumburra is supported, however request the power be places underground, at least on one side.		

Leading with Integrity Attachment 2.1.2	Connecting our People and Places	Economy and Industry	Healthy and Engaged Communities	Protecting and Enhancing our Environment	Sustainable Growth Agenda - 29 June 2022
	Submission #16: Consider a 4-hour parking limit in Loch township, or other solution for bike riders visiting the trail and leaving their cars in town all day.		Submission #29: Consideration be given to how volunteer organisations can relate to Council and the support Council can provide them for storage of their equipment and supplies.		
	Submission #18: There does not seem to be anything in council plans about gender equity and elimination of family violence. This is a huge issue in gippsland and council should be making a commitment to education and prevention of family violence. Working in partnership with with providers. But mostly changing culture in sporting clubs and council itself to support women's participation in decision making. The rest of plan with environmental sustainability and connection is great.		Submission #32: Replace the existing steel roof, eaves and facias to remedy water damage.		
	Submission #20: The naming of roads need to be more representative of women, making their names and stories more visible. Request budget allocation to include in policy and practices.		Submission #34: The initiative to renew the Korumburra Pool is supported and seen as a project connecting many of the Integrated Plans. The Committee have asked to be involved in the study and ongoing design of the facility for its full benefit to be realised.		
	Submission #25: Please support sewerage systems for small towns like Fish Creek.		Submission #37: Request stronger focus on library services through the Myli network in Council Plan and Community Vision and the support they bring to support a Healthy and Inclusive community.		
	Submission #28: Request a footpath be constructed to connect the Korumburra Industrial estate to the Showgrounds entrance, as a minimum, but preferably to Commercial Street.		Submission #43: Request Council establishes a significant event start-up seed fund of \$60,000 annually to address the gap in resources to grow volunteer run events into self-financing and sustaining events that have a major benefit for the community and for businesses and the economy of South Gippsland.		
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Submission #30: Reviewing unfunded projects from the Paths and Trails Strategy to connect small towns experiencing population growth..... I would hope that the old, and currently closed, Agnes River Road, between the South Gippsland Highway and Agnes Falls Road, will still be considered for improvements, as an alternative walking, bike-riding, or horse-riding track, to/from the Agnes Falls, as an offshoot from the Rail Trail at the Gassons Road, Agnes crossover. This suggestion is mentioned in the Paths & Trails Strategy document. Also, a footpath as badly needed along Victoria Street, between Grip Road, Toora and Mill Street/Stanley Street Toora.as a safe link off the town's walking track from the Grip Road-Victoria Street intersection. Another pathway would also be a safe and useful link between Grip Road and Buckley Street, along the South Gippsland Highway

Submission #45: Peters Street Mirboo North paved road access requires urgent works including repairs to footpath, kerb and channel, and sealing of unsealed section.

Submission #31: Request for lighting along the full access track to the beach, rubbish bins, boardwalk extensions and safe access for the public and club members to the beach.

Submission #33: Request for the missing section of footpath to be completed - joining George and King Street Korumburra, from Sanders Lane to King Street. Request to see the proposed footpath list for the next few years.

Submission #36: In support of the investment to the GSRT and the Marketing Strategy, indicating it is critical that the GSRT is regarded as an economic asset.

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

9 Smith Street (Private Bag 4) Leongatha VIC 3953
Phone: 5662 9200 Fax: 5662 3754
Email: council@southgippsland.vic.gov.au
Website: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/southgippslandshirecouncil



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