

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

# Council Meeting Agenda

Wednesday 18 June 2025



Council Chambers, Leongatha  
Commencing at 2:00 PM



*South Gippsland  
Shire Council*



## OUR COUNCIL VISION

We care deeply about our people, the land and the future of South Gippsland.

Our Vision is to support the whole Shire in creating economic, environmental and social prosperity for this and future generations.

The Council Agenda relates to the following Strategic Objectives of the Council Plan 2022-2026:

- ◆ Connecting our People and Places ◆
  - ◆ Economy and Industry ◆
- ◆ Healthy and Engaged Communities ◆
  - ◆ Leading with Integrity ◆
- ◆ Protecting and Enhancing our Environment ◆
  - ◆ Sustainable Growth ◆

## SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that Council Meeting of the  
South Gippsland Shire Council will be held on Wednesday 18 June 2025  
in the Council Chambers, Leongatha, commencing at 2:00pm

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**Allison Jones**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

**Privacy Statement**

Council is required to keep minutes of each Council meeting. The minutes contain details of proceedings which may include personal information about community members disclosed as part of presentations, submissions and questions. The minutes of Council meetings are a public record and can be inspected by members of the public.

## **1. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

### **1.1. LIVE-STREAMING COUNCIL MEETING DISCLAIMER**

This Council Meeting is being streamed live, recorded and published in accordance with Council's *Live Streaming in Council Meetings Policy*.

Access to the live stream through Council's Internet is an option to view the 'open' component of a Council Meeting. Link to the Live Stream on Council's website: [Live Streaming | Live Streaming | South Gippsland Shire Council](#)

The Chair and/or the CEO have the discretion and authority at any time to direct the termination or interruption of live streaming. Such direction will only be given in exceptional circumstances where deemed relevant. Circumstances may include instances where the content of debate is considered misleading, defamatory or potentially inappropriate to be published.

Today's Meeting is being streamed live as well as recorded and published on Council's website.

Thank you

### **1.2. WELCOME TO THE COUNCIL MEETING**

#### ***Public Questions***

In accordance with *Governance Rules (C82)*, clause 56.4(d) the placement of public questions has now closed. Questions must be received prior to the commencement of the Council Meeting and placed in the receptacle at Governance Officers table. Questions received after the commencement of the Meeting will be considered at the next Council Meeting.

### **1.3. OPENING PRAYER**

As we gather here from diverse backgrounds and beliefs, may we hold privilege with good care and trust. As we deliberate and discuss, may we be wise in our discernment, fair in our decisions and visionary in our planning. May we be guided by our common goal of a strong and united South Gippsland.

#### **1.4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS**

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.

#### **1.5. APOLOGIES**

#### **1.6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Minutes of the South Gippsland Shire Council Meeting held on 21 May 2025 in the Council Chambers, Leongatha be confirmed.**



## 1.7. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST FOR COUNCILLORS

The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), Division 2 sets out the requirements relating to Conflict of Interest. Disclosure of a conflict of interest in respect of a matter to be considered at a Council Meeting is required under section 130(1)(a) and specifically applies to a relevant person being a Councillor, member of a delegated committee who is not a Councillor and a member of Council staff.

Council's *Governance Rules (C82)* (the Rules), clause 3.0 Disclosure of a Conflict of Interest at a Council Meeting sets out the prescribed manner required to disclose a conflict of interest at South Gippsland Shire Council.

The Rules require a Councillor and/ or staff member who has a conflict of interest in a matter being considered at a Council Meeting to announce before the matter is considered and disclose this in a written notice to the Chief Executive Officer. The details included in the disclosure, explain the nature conflict of interest, whether it is classified as general or material (s.127 and s.128), the name of the relevant person(s) and their relationship to them.

Failure to comply with disclosures of conflict of interest (s.130) may be subject to penalty points and/ or other disciplinary measures depending on the nature of the conflict.

The *Local Government Act 2020* can be accessed from the Victorian Legislation and Parliamentary documents website at [www.legislation.vic.gov.au](http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au).

Council's *Governance Rules (C82)* can be accessed from [Council's Policies](#) webpage.

**Councillor Bron Beach has declared a general conflict of interest in Confidential Agenda Item 9.1. South Gippsland Shire Council Community Grants Program 2024/25 Round 2, as Councillor Beach is the President of the Leongatha Lyric Theatre.**

**Councillor Nathan Hersey has declared a material conflict of interest in Open Agenda Item 2.3. Renaming of a Section of Speight Street Loch - Consideration of community feedback, as Councillor Hersey owns property in the Loch township.**

**Councillor Nathan Hersey has declared a general conflict of interest in Confidential Agenda Item 9.1. South Gippsland Shire Council Community Grants Program 2024/25 Round 2, as Councillor Hersey is a member of the Korumburra Agriculture and Pastoral Society.**

**Councillor Clare Williams has declared a material conflict of interest in Open Agenda Confidential Agenda Item 9.1 South Gippsland Shire Council Community Grants Program 2024/25 Round 2, as a family member holds a leadership position for Leongatha Business Association.**

## 1.8. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST FOR STAFF

The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), Division 2 sets out the requirements relating to Conflict of Interest. Disclosure of a conflict of interest in respect of a matter to be considered at a Council Meeting is required under section 130(1)(a) and specifically applies to a relevant person being a Councillor, member of a delegated committee who is not a Councillor and a member of Council staff.

Council's *Governance Rules (C82) (the Rules)*, Chapter 5, clause 7, 8 and 9 sets the prescribed manner required for staff to disclose a conflict of interest when:

- Preparing Reports for Meetings
- Exercise of Delegated Power
- Exercise of a Statutory Function

Council staff must immediately upon becoming aware of a conflict of interest provide a written notice to the Chief Executive Officer disclosing the conflict of interest, explain the nature of the conflict and how it will be managed. Upon becoming aware and declaring a conflict of interest, a staff member may not exercise a power or perform a function in the matter. All prepared reports will record that staff member(s) have considered a conflict of interest and include if any, the details of a disclosure.

Failure to comply with disclosures of conflict of interest (s.130) may be subject to penalty points and/ or other disciplinary measures depending on the nature of the conflict.

The *Local Government Act 2020* can be accessed from the Victorian Legislation and Parliamentary documents website at [www.legislation.vic.gov.au](http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au).

Council's *Governance Rules (C82)* can be accessed from [Council's Policies](#) webpage.



## 2. COUNCIL REPORTS

### 2.1. INTEGRATED PLANNING DOCUMENTS FOR ENDORSEMENT

Directorate:	Strategy & Partnerships
Department:	Governance and Integrity

#### Council Plan

*Objective - Leading with Integrity*

*The development of these Integrated Plans sets the strategic direction of the Council over the next four-year term and aligns with the South Gippsland Community Vision 2040 revision.*

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present the completed suite of Integrated Planning (Plans) documents for Council's consideration and determination.

These Plans are fundamental documents for Council as they provide Council's strategic objectives and outline the future financial, and other resource, planning to support the delivery of the Council Plan and Community Vision 2040.

The documents include:

- Council Plan 2025 – 2029 (**Attachment [2.1.1]**);
- Financial Plan 2025/26 – 2034/35 (**Attachment [2.1.2]**);
- Revenue and Rating Plan 2025 – 2029 (**Attachment [2.1.3]**);
- Budget 2025/26 – 2028/29, including the 2025/26 Council Plan Annual Initiatives (**Attachment [2.1.4]**);
- Asset Plan 2025 – 2035 (**Attachment [2.1.5]**);
- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025 – 2029 (**Attachment [2.1.6]**); and
- Integrated Planning Engagement Report (**Attachment [2.1.7]**).

Also included as an outcome from the Budget engagement process is the proposal to lease the property at 2746 Meeniyan Promontory Road, Yanakie to the Corner Inlet Motorcycle Club.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

1. **Adopts the Council Plan 2025 - 2029 (Attachment [2.1.1]) in accordance with s.90 of the Local Government Act 2020;**
2. **Adopts the Financial Plan 2025/26 - 2034/35 (Attachment [2.1.2]), Revenue and Rating Plan 2025 - 2029 (Attachment [2.1.3]) and the Budget 2025/26 - 2028/29 (Attachment [2.1.4]); including the 2025/26 Council Plan Annual Initiatives in accordance with s.91, s.93, s.94 and s.96 of the Local Government Act 2020;**
3. **Adopts the Asset Plan 2025 - 2035 (Attachment [2.1.5]) in accordance with s.92 of the Local Government Act 2020;**
4. **Adopts the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025 - 2029 (Attachment [2.1.6]);**
5. **Adopts the Integrated Planning Engagement Report 2025 (Attachment [2.1.7]);**
6. **Publishes all Plans referenced in this Council Report on Council's website; and**
7. **Enters a lease with the Corner Inlet Motorcycle Club for a term of five years, with a further term of five years, for a rental of \$104 plus GST per annum as there were no negative submissions received to the proposal during the consultation period of 17 April to 7 May 2025.**

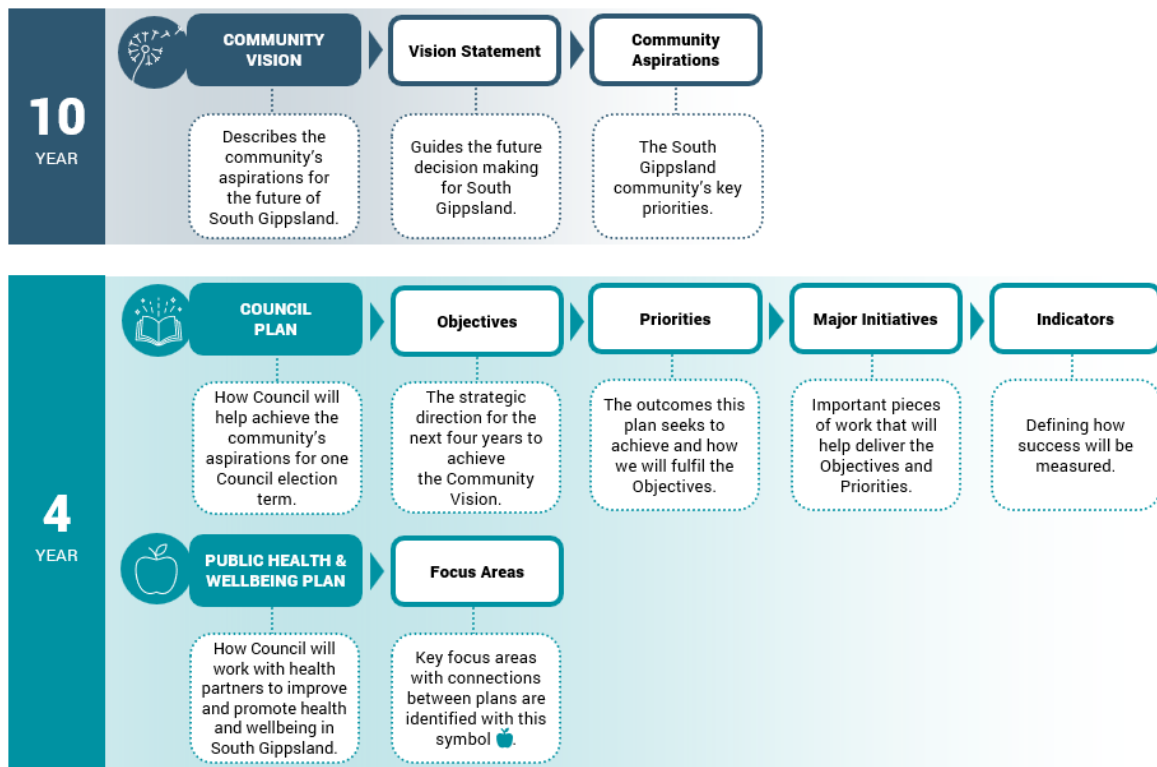
## **REPORT**

Council is required to develop or review a suite of Integrated Planning documents by 31 October in the year following a general election. These Plans have been prepared in accordance with s.88, s.89 and s.90 of the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)*.

These Plans are presented for Council's consideration and are aligned with sections of the Act as follow:

- Council Plan 2025 - 2029 (s.90) (**Attachment [2.1.1]**);
- Financial Plan 2025/26 - 2034/35 (s.91) (**Attachment [2.1.2]**);
- Revenue and Rating Plan 2025 - 2029 (s.93) (**Attachment [2.1.3]**);
- Budget 2025/26 - 2028/29 (s.94 and s.96) (**Attachment [2.1.4]**);
- Asset Plan 2025 - 2035 (s.92) (**Attachment [2.1.5]**); and
- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025 - 2029 (*Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*) (**Attachment [2.1.6]**).

The diagram below describes how these documents integrate.



To inform the development of the Plans and assist in the review of the Community Vision 2040, Council undertook a significant community engagement campaign across the municipality branded *Shaping South Gippsland*.

The engagement ran from late January 2025 to the end of February 2025. It featured an online survey and 22 in-person engagements, including Councillor pop-ups and event attendance, across 17 townships.

In total, 946 survey responses were received and over 1,100 Council Plan initiatives were provided for Councillor consideration.

Councillors also participated in a series of internal Workshops held on 27 November, 19 December, 5 March, 12 March, 19 March and 26 March to consider community feedback, develop priorities and help inform the development of these documents.

Following the endorsement of the Draft Plans at the 16 April 2025 Council Meeting, further community consultation took place from 17 April to 7 May 2025 via Council's online YourSay Survey.

After reviewing the community feedback in this final consultation period, changes to the Draft Integrated Plans adopted at the 16 April 2025 Council Meeting are outlined below under each Integrated Plan heading.

### Council Plan 2025 – 2029

- Small formatting and grammatical changes were made to provide additional clarity and improve readability. The strategies included in the Council Plan were based on feedback from the *Shaping South Gippsland* engagement.

### Financial Plan 2025/26 – 2034/35

- A correction to the Planning and Building Department FTE (Full Time Equivalent), increase from 18 FTE to 18.4 FTE.

### Revenue and Rating Plan 2025 – 2029

- No changes.

### Budget 2025/26 – 2028/29

- A correction to the Meningococcal Immunisation Fee, MenB increase from \$95 to \$145.
- A correction to the Planning and Building Department FTE, increase from 18 FTE to 18.4 FTE.
- Removed the Trust for Nature rebate for properties being charged rates on the Farm Rate differential. Notification of this change to be sent to the 25 landowners impacted and to the Trust for Nature organisation.

### Asset Plan 2025 – 2035

- No changes.

### Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025 – 2029

The Draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan received practical and useful feedback from partners, individual community members and other interested parties. Much of the feedback has been incorporated without requiring substantial change to the Draft Plan presented at the April 2025 Council Meeting.

Aside from language, grammar and formatting changes the primary changes are outlined in the below **Table 1**.

**Table 1: Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan Primary Changes**

Page	Proposed Change
Acknowledgement	Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee. An introductory paragraph highlighting the Committee's contribution to and support for the MPHWP has been drafted for inclusion alongside the Partner and Council introduction.
Strategy Themes	All themes have had their explanatory notes expanded and data for South Gippsland included as appropriate.
Preventing all forms of violence	Inclusion of more active language.

Page	Proposed Change
Improving Wellbeing	Inclusion of disability and neurodiversity in reducing stigma.
Increasing active living	Inclusion of more active language.
Healthy Eating	<b>Inclusion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the availability and consumption of healthy food and drink options through policies, programs and awareness campaigns in work, education and public settings.</li> <li>• Improve access and affordability of locally grown and produced healthy food by supporting and attracting investment in local food industries and businesses.</li> </ul>
Tackling Climate Change	<b>Inclusion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build community knowledge and understanding of the importance of maintaining and/or increasing canopy cover and green spaces, to support biodiversity, thermal comfort and UV protection.</li> </ul>
On the Horizon	Expanded explanatory notes and demographic data.
Appendix	Statistic Sources - Addition of sources

The Final Integrated Plans (**Attachment [2.1.1]**) to **Attachment [2.1.6]**) are presented to Council for final endorsement at the 18 June 2025 Council Meeting.

## Background

### Council Plan 2025 - 2029

The *Council Plan 2025 - 2029* (**Attachment [2.1.1]**) aligns with the *South Gippsland Community Vision 2040* and sets out the strategic objectives, strategies (priorities) and indicators Council will strive towards during their term of office.

This Council Plan aims to show where Council will focus the allocation of resources and direction of Council for the next four years, while aligning with the *Community Vision 2040*. This document has been prepared in accordance with s.90 of the Act.

The Council Plan contains three Strategic Objectives that broadly align with the overarching priorities of the *Community Vision 2040*; however, they are worded to focus the organisation on specific requirements to be addressed in the term of this Council.

The three Strategic Objectives of the Draft Council Plan are:

- Developing a Sustainable Future: *Environment, Growth and Economy*
- Leading with Integrity: *Good Governance and Financial Sustainability*
- Empowering Community: *Healthy, Connected and Inclusive*

The Council Plan also outlines the *2025/26 Annual Actions* (Annual Actions) and are incorporated under their relevant Objective in the Council Plan. These *Annual Actions* are also contained and resourced through the Budget 2025/26 - 2028/29.

In each progressive year Council will develop new *Annual Actions* to be achieved and these will be updated/replaced annually in the Council Plan and Budget. These may be influenced in part by changing circumstances, emerging influences and the areas considered a priority to progress the achievement of the Objectives and Priorities.

### **Financial Plan 2025 - 2035 and Budget 2025/26 - 2028/29**

The *Financial Plan* (**Attachment [2.1.2]**) sets the long-term financial direction for the next ten years and has been prepared in accordance with s.91 of the Act.

As part of this Plan the Victorian Council Rate Cap has been set at 3.0 per cent for 2025/26.

The *Budget 2025/26 - 2028/29* (**Attachment [2.1.4]**) sets out the annual budget for the next financial year and includes the following three years.

It has been prepared in accordance with s.94 and s.96 of the Act. The 2025/26 *Annual Actions* have also been incorporated in this Plan to help deliver the Council Plan.

Both these documents follow the *Better Practice Guidelines* and *Model Budget* issued by Local Government Victoria (LGV) and are in accordance with the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

Councils are required to set targets for the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF). The *Budget 2025/26 – 2028/29* includes these indicators with a target for the budgeted year and subsequent three financial years, to meet these regulations.

The *Budget 2025/26 - 2028/29* (**Attachment [2.1.4]**) includes the level that differential rates are proposed to be set by Council for the different property types.

For the *Budget 2025/26*, the farm rate in the dollar is proposed to be reduced from 70 per cent to 65 per cent and the vacant residential rate in the dollar is proposed to be reduced from 200 per cent to 150 percent.

Additionally, it is proposed that the Cultural and Recreational Rate has been removed and instead replaced with a 'Charge-in-Lieu' of rates as per the *Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963*. The list of properties to be charged in lieu of rates is included in the Budget document. There were no submissions received in regard to this list.

Council conducted engagement of a lease proposal with Corner Inlet Motorcycle Club as part of the Budget process. This lease relates to property at 2746 Meeniyan Promontory Road, Yanakie. The lease term is for five years with an option to extend for a further five years, commencing on 1 July 2025 with an annual community rental value of \$104 plus GST per annum. The specified purpose/use of the land is for a motorcycle track and motorcycle club. There were no submissions received on this proposal, and it is therefore recommended that Council enters into this lease.

## **Revenue and Rating Plan 2025 - 2029**

As set out in s.93 of the Act, Council is required to prepare and adopt the *Revenue and Rating Plan 2025 - 2029* by 30 June following a general election.

The *Revenue and Rating Plan 2025 - 2029* (**Attachment [2.1.4]**) establishes the revenue raising framework within which Council proposes to operate. Annual reviews will be completed to ensure that Council's approach to revenue raising remains appropriate and affordable.

The purpose of this Plan is to consider what rating options are available to Council under the Act and how Council chooses to apply these options to contribute towards meeting the requirement for an equitable rating strategy.

The introduction of rate capping under the Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) has brought a renewed focus to Council's long-term financial sustainability.

The FGRS continues to restrict Council's ability to raise revenue above the rate cap unless application is made to the Essential Services Commission for a variation. Maintaining service delivery levels and investing in community assets remain key priorities for Council.

This Plan explains charges that are collected on behalf of the Victorian Government, for example, the Land Fill Levy and Emergency Service Volunteer Fund.

It also explains how Council calculates the revenue needed to fund its activities, and how the funding burden will be apportioned between ratepayers and other users of Council facilities and services.

It is important to note that this Plan does not set revenue targets for Council, it outlines the strategic framework and decisions that inform how Council will go about calculating and collecting its revenue.

## **Asset Plan 2025 - 2035**

The *Asset Plan* (**Attachment [2.1.5]**) sets out the quantum and state of Council's assets and the key challenges and choices that are associated with effective asset management.

The *Asset Plan* is a key strategic document that has been prepared in accordance with s.92 of the Act.

This Plan informs the community, in conjunction with Council's other strategic documents, about how Council manages its vast asset portfolio, both now and into the future.

## **Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025 - 2029**

The *Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* requires councils to prepare a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (MPHWP) within 12 months after a general election of the Council.

The Act requires councils to have regard to the state public health and wellbeing plan when developing their municipal public health and wellbeing plans. This is



intended to encourage state and local governments to work together to strengthen the health and wellbeing of communities and people.

The themes of the MPHWP (**Attachment [2.1.6]**) also have a strong alignment to the three Strategic Objectives of the Council Plan.

### **CONSULTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Act requires councils to take an integrated approach to strategic planning.

- Council conducted a community consultation branded *Shaping South Gippsland* from late January 2025 to the end of February 2025. The consultation included a variety of activities including Councillor Pop-Ups, event attendance and a stakeholder workshop.
- In total 22 engagement events were held across 17 townships with 946 survey responses received and over 1,100 Council Plan suggestions provided.
- Councillors also participated in a series of internal Workshops held on 27 November, 19 December, 5 March, 12 March, 19 March and 26 March to consider community feedback, develop priorities and help inform the development of these documents.
- Further community consultation took place from 17 April to 7 May following the Draft Plans being endorsed at the 16 April 2025 Council Meeting to allow online submissions and feedback via Council's online YourSay survey.

A detailed engagement summary is contained in the Integrated Planning Engagement Report in **Attachment [2.1.7]**, that provides context to the extensive consultation undertaken to inform the suite of Integrated Plans. Council extends its appreciation to everyone who has taken the time to participate in these engagement activities.

These approaches have assisted Councillors to work together to articulate and represent the voice of their constituents and communities, and provide recommendations and direction, while being mindful to responsibly manage resources.

### **RESOURCES / FINANCIAL VIABILITY**

The *Council Plan* is a key strategic document that describes the Council's direction and planning of resources for the next four years.

The *Financial Plan 2025 - 2035*, *Revenue and Rating Plan 2025 - 2029* and *Annual Budget* are key strategic documents that outline the direction and resources required to achieve Council's direction in the Council Plan and the range of services provided.

The *Financial Plan 2025 - 2035* also provides an outlook of Council's financial position for at least the next ten years.

The *Asset Plan 2025 - 2035* is a key strategic document that describes the Council's direction and planning of current and future assets for the next ten years.

The *Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025 - 2029* has been prepared in accordance with the *Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*.

## **RISKS**

Council is required to develop or review these *Plans* in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*. These *Plans* sets the strategic direction of Council.

Without these *Plans*, Council risks breaching the legislative requirements and may suffer reputational damage and be constrained in its ability to raise the necessary funds to carry out its functions and meet its objectives.

## **STAFF DISCLOSURE**

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

*Attachments are available on Council's website at the following [LINK](#).*

1. Council Plan - 2025 to 2029 - 18 June 2025 Council Meeting [2.1.1 - 26 pages]
2. Financial Plan 2025/26 – 2034/35 - 18 June 2025 Council Meeting [2.1.2 - 38 pages]
3. Revenue and Rating Plan 2025 - 2029 - 18 June 2025 Council Meeting [2.1.3 - 34 pages]
4. Annual Budget 2025/26 – 2028/29 - 18 June 2025 Council Meeting [2.1.4 - 71 pages]
5. Asset Plan 2025 – 2035 - 18 June 2025 Council Meeting [2.1.5 - 40 pages]
6. Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025 – 2029 - 18 June 2025 Council Meeting [2.1.6 - 28 pages]
7. Integrated Planning Engagement Report - 18 June 2025 Council Meeting [2.1.7 - 32 pages]

## **REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

### **Council's Good Governance Framework**

Pillar 1. Direction & Leadership

### **Council Policy / Strategy / Plans**

*Documents are available on Council's website at the following [LINK](#).*

Community Vision 2040  
Community Vision  
Council Plan  
Long Term Financial Plan  
Annual Budget  
Asset Plan

Revenue and Rating Plan  
Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan  
Community Engagement Strategy  
Community Engagement Policy

**Legislative Provisions**

*Local Government Act 2020*  
*Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020*

**Regional, State and National Plan and Policies**

Nil

## 2.2. REMOVAL OF RESERVATION STATUS AND PROPOSED SALE OF 71 MACDONALD STREET, LEONGATHA

Directorate:	Sustainable Infrastructure
Department:	Infrastructure Planning

### Council Plan

*Objective - Sustainable Growth*

*A decision to allow a change to land that enables further development of land for a subdivision in Leongatha.*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to propose the commencement of the statutory and community engagement process to sell part of 71 MacDonald Street, Leongatha to the adjoining landowners and if successful, removal of the reservation status.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

1. Commence statutory procedure on accordance with s.114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* to sell part of the land known 71 MacDonald Street, Leongatha and being part Reservation No.1 LP21596S being 127 square metres to the adjoining landowner, for not less than the valuation to be obtained;
2. Gives public notice with respect to the proposal on Council's website and local newspapers in the edition commencing 1 July 2025 in accordance with *(CE84) Community Engagement for Property Proposals Policy (Guidelines)* on the proposal, inviting written submissions to be received by 5pm Monday 28 July 2025;
  - a. If submissions are made to the public notice:
    - i. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to fix the time, date and place of the meeting for the hearing for persons who wish to be heard in support of their submissions;
    - ii. Receives a further report to consider submissions and determine the outcome at the next available Council Meeting;
  - b. If no submissions are received to the public notice, implement the proposal in Recommendations 1 and 3; and
3. Remove the reservation status and create Road 1 and Lot 1 in accordance with s.24A of the *Subdivision Act 1988*.

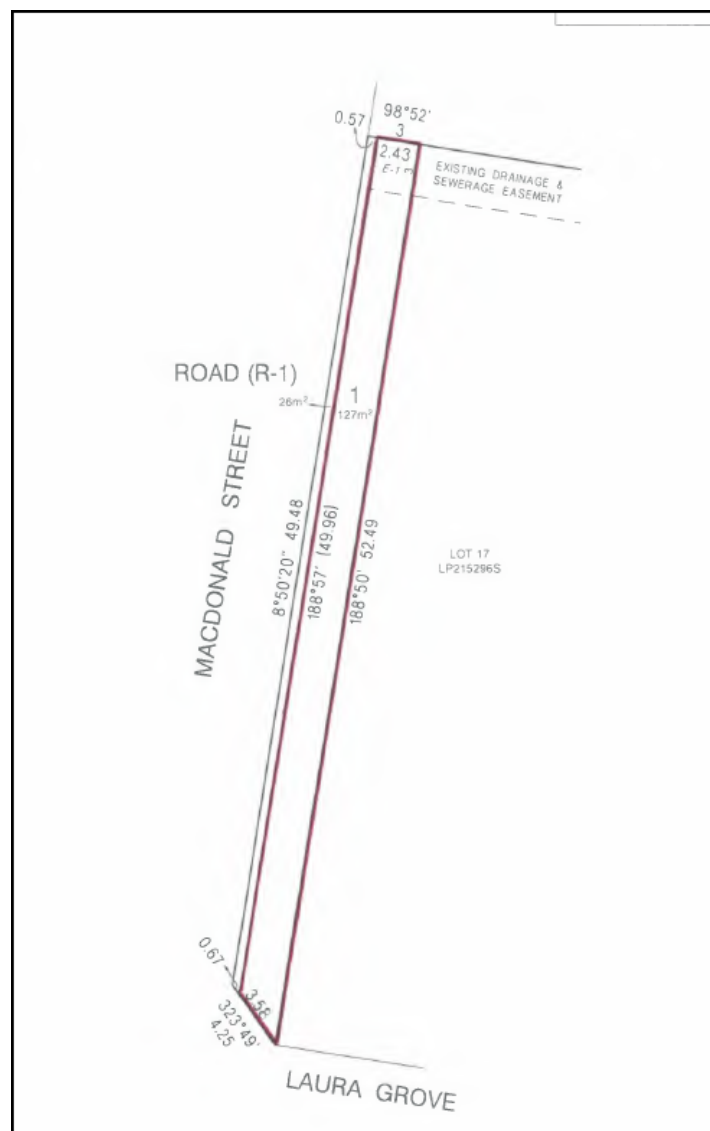
## REPORT

Council's Property Department has been approached by RASO Consulting Surveyors acting on behalf of the adjoining landowners at 1 Laura Grove, Leongatha to purchase part of the reserve being Reservation No.1 LP21596S.

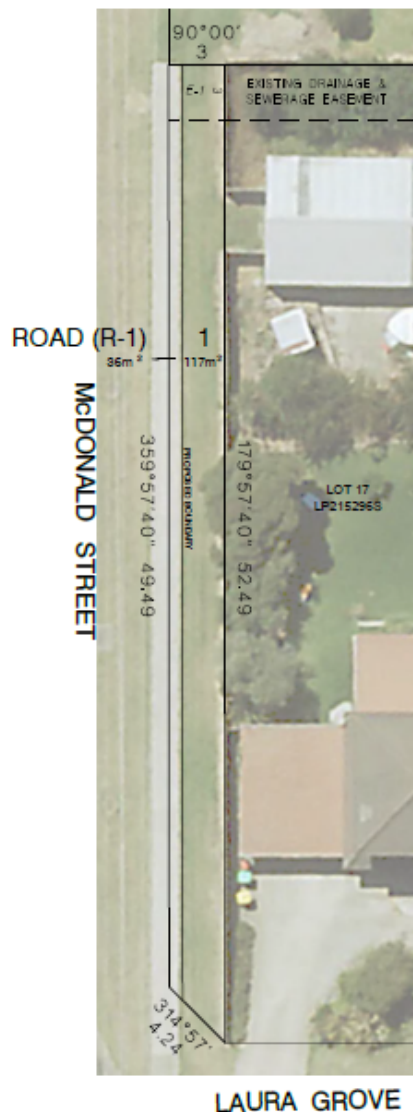
They propose to subdivide 1 Laura Grove into three parcels in a two staged subdivision. The reservation area will be used for private purpose and create Road R1 on the area that is footpath. Council will have ownership over R1 and the land area will be purchased by the adjoining landowner. A valuation will be sought once the statutory process is completed as valuations are only valid for six-months and could expire if any submissions are received and the process to remove the reservation status.

If Council were to sell the land, the reservation status would be required to be removed in accordance with Section 24A Plan. The reserved land in discussion is outlined in red in the Plan in **Figure 1**.

**Figure 1 Section 24A Plan for reservation removal and creation of road.**



**Figure 2 Aerial view of subject land**



### **CONSULTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The community engagement process calls for public submissions on the proposal to sell the portion of the land to the adjoining landowner.

Council's Engineering Department has no in-principle objection to gaining direct access to MacDonald Street, Leongatha.

### **RESOURCES / FINANCIAL VIABILITY**

The Property Department will consult with an Independent Certified Practising Valuer to determine the value of the land.

The applicant has paid for the survey work required.

## **RISKS**

The minimal risk to Council is that it proceeds with the removal of the reservation and the applicant decides not to proceed with the acquisition. If this was to happen it would require Council to create the reserve over its land again.

## **STAFF DISCLOSURE**

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.

## **REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

### **Council's Good Governance Framework**

Pillar 3. Decision making

### **Council Policy / Strategy / Plans**

Community Engagement for Property Proposals Policy (CE84)

Community Engagement Policy (C06)

### **Legislative Provisions**

Local Government Act 2020

Subdivision Act 1988

### **Regional, State and National Plan and Policies**

Nil



## 2.3. RENAMING OF A SECTION OF SPEIGHT STREET LOCH - CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Directorate:	Strategy & Partnerships
Department:	Governance and Integrity

### Council Plan

*Objective - Leading with Integrity*

*Ensuring that Council meets its statutory obligations to consult with the community before making decisions as naming authority, is consistent with the objective of Leading with Integrity.*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the submissions received from the recent community consultation held on renaming of a section of Speight Street in Loch, to Albert Road. Council received four submissions through its Your Say Online Survey with all submissions either supporting, or not opposing, the renaming.

The current naming of Speight Street, Loch is not consistent with the current Naming Rules issued by Geographic Names Victoria, and it is in the public interest to consider a renaming proposal.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

- Determines the subject section of Speight Street in Loch, between Albert Road and the intersection of Queen Street and Smith Street to be renamed to Albert Road;**
- Writes to all submitters advising them of Council's decision and notifies the objectors that they have an opportunity to appeal South Gippsland Shire Council's decision with Geographic Names Victoria;**
- Submits the proposed renaming of the subject section of Speight Street in Loch to Geographic Names Victoria for final consideration and approval; and**
- Subjects to Geographic Names Victoria's approval and Gazettal, update Council's Street signage as required.**

### REPORT

#### **Background**

The naming of roads, assets or any other geographic feature in Victoria is governed by the *Geographic Place Names Act 1998* and associated Naming Rules

issued by Geographic Names Victoria (GNV). Council has specific powers under s.206 of the *Local Government Act 1989* in relation to the naming of roads.

The current naming of Speight Street is not consistent with the current Naming Rules issued by Geographic Names Victoria, and it is in the public interest to consider a renaming proposal.

### **Subject Section of Speight Street Loch**

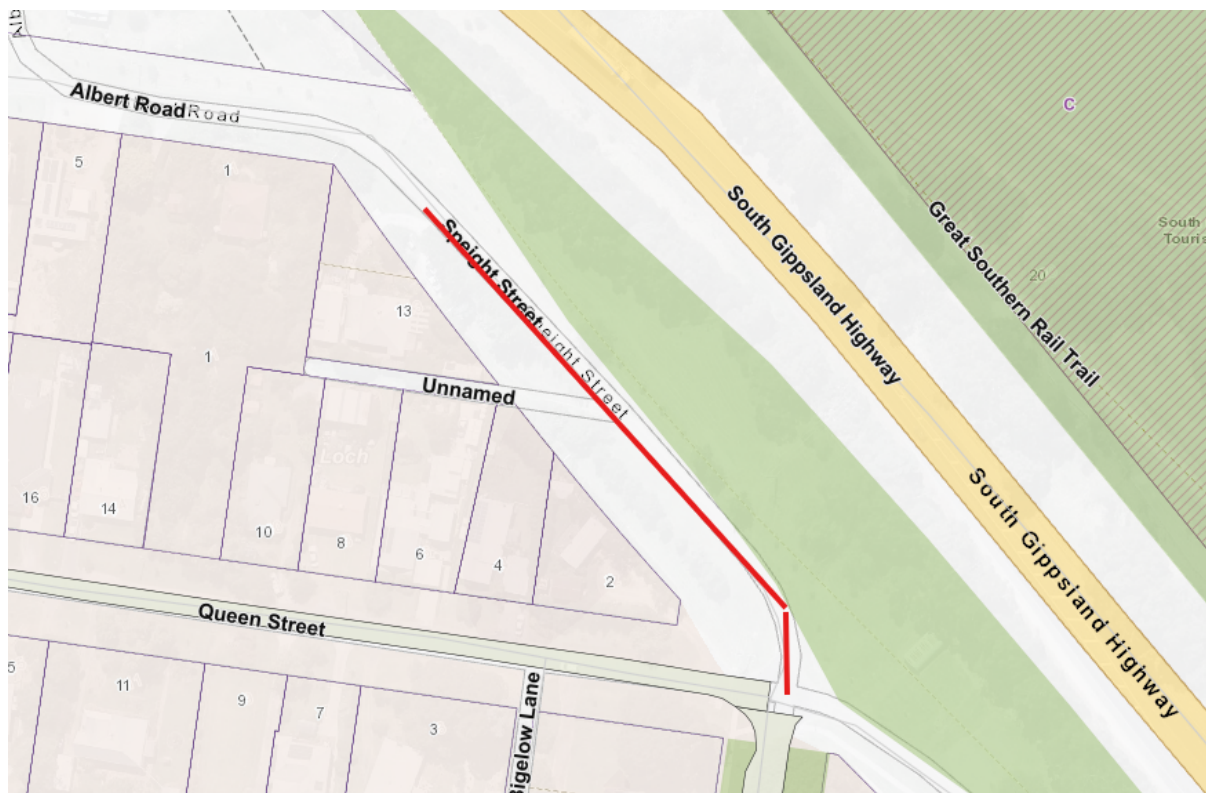
Currently Speight Street, Loch connects from two intersections. Those being:

- Victoria Road; and
- Queen Street and Smith Street which continues into Albert Road after Victoria Road.

It is proposed that a section of Speight Street be renamed Albert Road.

The section proposed to be renamed is the section from the intersection with Queen Street and Smith Street, which continues into Albert Road which is shown in red in the picture below:

**Figure 1: Naming Proposal Speight Street, Loch**



### **Community Engagement Responses**

At its Council Meeting held on 16 April 2025, Council resolved to undertake community consultation from 17 April 2025 to 18 May 2025. Council's Your Say Online Survey registered 38 views for this item and Council received four submissions.

All submissions either supported or did not oppose the renaming and included suggestions for further safety improvements for Albert Road such as; improved street lighting, additional street signage to highlight street numbering along Albert Road and speed limit signage.

Council Officers agree that additional street signage highlighting street numbering along Albert Road should be installed if the proposed renaming is endorsed by Council.

The request for street lighting and additional speed limit signage in and along Albert Road will be considered by the relevant Council departments for assessment and responses will be provided to the submitters.

### **Next Steps**

If Council resolves to approve the renaming of the subject section of Speight Street, Council officers will:

- Write to all submitters advising them of Council's decision and notifies the objectors that they have an opportunity to appeal South Gippsland Shire Council's decision with Geographic Names Victoria;
- Submit the proposed renaming of the subject section of Speight Street in Loch to Geographic Names Victoria for final consideration and approval; and
- Subject to Geographic Names Victoria's approval and Gazettal, update Council's street signage as required.

### **CONSULTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Community consultation was undertaken from 17 April 2025 to 18 May 2025.

Letters were sent to all property owners of Speight Street and Albert Road in Loch and the wider community was encouraged to make a submission via Council's Your Say Online Survey. Four submissions were received as part of this process.

### **RESOURCES / FINANCIAL VIABILITY**

The updating of Council's Street signage is estimated to cost \$300.

### **RISKS**

As a Naming Authority, Council must undertake its responsibilities in accordance with the Naming Rules and *Geographic Place Names Act 1998*. Council must ensure that road users are able to use roads effectively. There is a risk that if Council does not undertake a process to rename the highlighted section of Speight Street Loch, that road users, including Emergency Services, will find it difficult when attempting to locate properties on Speight Street and Albert Road Loch.

## **STAFF DISCLOSURE**

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

*Attachments are available on Council's website at the following [LINK](#).*

Nil

## **REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

### **Council's Good Governance Framework**

Pillar 5. Communications & Community Engagement

### **Council Policy / Strategy / Plans**

*Documents are available on Council's website at the following [LINK](#).*

Community Engagement Policy (C06)

### **Legislative Provisions**

*Local Government Act 1989*

*Local Government Act 2020*

*Geographic Place Names Act 1998*

### **Regional, State and National Plan and Policies**

Nil

## 2.4. FLOOD STUDY IMPLEMENTATION

Directorate:	Future Communities
Department:	Planning and Building Services

### Council Plan

*Objective - Sustainable Growth*

*This report aligns with Council Plan's commitment to proactively address climate change impacts, specifically by evaluating flooding risk in the context of future municipal growth.*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's consideration for the adoption and subsequent implementation of several flood studies (**Attachments [2.4.1]-[2.4.11]**). These studies, prepared by the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA), pertain to areas within the WGCMA's jurisdiction that encompass a significant portion of our municipality. Further, the WGCMA has developed corresponding Flood Overlay mapping intended for integration into the South Gippsland Planning Scheme to enact the findings of these studies (**Attachment [2.4.12]** and **Attachment [2.4.13]** for the corresponding planning controls).

Council has proactively secured funding through the State Government's Regional Flood-Related Amendments Program to facilitate the implementation of these adopted flood studies into the South Gippsland Planning Scheme. This State-funded program is specifically designed to support such integrations.

The subsequent planning scheme amendment process will be comprehensive, incorporating extensive public consultation. This will ensure all interested parties have the opportunity to provide submissions to Council and an independent Standing Advisory Committee for consideration before any modifications are made to the South Gippsland Planning Scheme.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

- 1. Seeks written consent from the Minister for Planning to prepare and give notice of a draft Planning Scheme Amendment C135 to the South Gippsland Planning Scheme, to implement the following flood studies:**
  - a. Floodplain mapping for Hedley, 2024 (Attachment [2.4.1]);**
  - b. Floodplain mapping for Shady Creek, Welshpool, 2024 (Attachment [2.4.2]);**

- c. **1486-1488 & 1492 Korumburra Wonthaggi Rd, Kongwak – Preliminary flood analysis (Kongwak Butter & Cheese), 2023 (Attachment [2.4.3]);**
  - d. **Inverloch Region Coastal Hazard Assessment, 2022 (Attachment [2.4.4]);**
  - e. **Flood impact assessment - 421 Barry Road, Welshpool, 2021 (Attachment [2.4.5]);**
  - f. **Flood and drainage study for Foster and surrounding catchments, 2019 (Attachment [2.4.6]);**
  - g. **Floodplain mapping for Tarwin River East Branch, 2019 (Attachment [2.4.7]);**
  - h. **Floodplain mapping for Tarwin River West Branch, 2019 (Attachment [2.4.8]);**
  - i. **Floodplain mapping for Fish Creek, 2018 (Attachment [2.4.9]);**
  - j. **Corner Inlet Dynamic Storm Tide Modelling Assessment, 2014 (Attachment [2.4.10]);**
  - k. **The Effect of Climate Change on Extreme Sea Levels along Victoria's Coast, 2009 (Attachment [2.4.11]);**
- 2. Introduces flood controls in accordance with the draft planning control maps (Attachment [2.4.12]) and schedules included in (Attachment [2.4.13]) and to utilise the Flood-related Amendments Standing Advisory Committee to review unresolved submissions, if required;**
- 3. Where all submissions are resolved or no submissions to the draft Planning Scheme Amendment C135 are received, requests the Minister for Planning to:**
- a. **Prepare Amendment C135 to the South Gippsland Planning Scheme under section 8 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*;**
  - b. **Use their powers of intervention under s.20(4) to exempt themselves from the notice requirements of ss.17, 18 and 19 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*; and**
  - c. **Adopt and approve the amendment under ss.29 and 35 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to introduce flood controls in accordance with Attachments [2.4.12] and [2.4.13].**
- 4. Where submissions remain unresolved:**

- a. **Requests that the Minister for Planning refer the draft Planning Scheme Amendment C135 and all submissions to the Flood-related Amendments Standing Advisory Committee (SAC), and following receipt of the SAC report; and**
- b. **Requests that the Minister for Planning:**
  - i. **Prepare Amendment C135 to the South Gippsland Planning Scheme under s.8 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*;**
  - ii. **Use their powers of intervention under s.20(4) to exempt themselves from the notice requirements of ss.17, 18 and 19 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*; and**
  - iii. **Adopt and approve the amendment under ss.29 and 35 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to introduce flood controls in accordance with Attachments [2.4.12] and [2.4.13].**

## **REPORT**

### **Background**

The increasing frequency of significant flood events across Australia is focusing the attention of all levels of government on the need to identify land susceptible to flooding, and to introduce land management responses (including planning scheme responses) to manage the risk. In response to this issue, the State Government has initiated its Regional flood-related amendments program, which provides funding assistance to councils for the implementation of completed flood studies that have not yet been implemented. It also established the Flood related Amendments Standing Advisory Committee to assist with flood-study-related planning scheme amendments.

At Council's Meeting on 17 July 2024, it was resolved to apply for State Government grant funding to update flood controls in South Gippsland. This meeting specifically sought to update controls in Foster and the Tarwin River catchment. The relevant flood studies identified were:

- Flood and drainage study for Foster and surrounding catchments, 2019 (Attachment [2.4.6])
- Floodplain mapping for Tarwin River East Branch, 2019 (Attachment [2.4.7])
- Floodplain mapping for Tarwin River West Branch, 2019 (Attachment [2.4.8])

Since then, State Government funding has been secured to implement South Gippsland flood studies. Through this process the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA) identified a number of other flood studies that it recommends implementing through updated planning controls:

- Floodplain mapping for Hedley, 2024 (Attachment [2.4.1])
- Floodplain mapping for Shady Creek, Welshpool, 2024 (Attachment [2.4.2])



- 1486-1488 & 1492 Korumburra Wonthaggi Rd, Kongwak – Preliminary flood analysis (Kongwak Butter & Cheese), 2023 (Attachment [2.4.3])
- Inverloch Region Coastal Hazard Assessment, 2022 (Attachment [2.4.4])
- Flood impact assessment - 421 Barry Road, Welshpool, 2021 (Attachment [2.4.5])
- Floodplain mapping for Fish Creek, 2018 (Attachment [2.4.9])
- Corner Inlet Dynamic Storm Tide Modelling Assessment, 2014 (Attachment [2.4.10])
- The Effect of Climate Change on Extreme Sea Levels along Victoria's Coast, 2009 (Attachment [2.4.11])

### **Responsibilities and risks relating to flood study implementation**

Integrating flood studies into planning schemes can be challenging, often resulting in completed studies remaining unimplemented for years after their completion. This delay leaves landowners and occupiers unaware of potential flood risks, preventing them from making informed development decisions.

The application of flood overlay controls to private land is often met with community concern. It is anticipated that some landowners may object to the proposed controls, with common concerns typically relating to potential impacts on land values, building constraints, and insurance premiums.

To ensure transparency and community involvement, a comprehensive public consultation process will be undertaken. This will include direct notification to all owners and occupiers of properties within the proposed overlay areas. All submissions received will be referred to an independent advisory body appointed by the Minister for Planning – the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC). Further details on the SAC process are provided below.

The application of risk-based planning controls to private land can be complex, as they directly affect existing landowners. While there may be a natural reluctance to impose new constraints on current landholders, it is important to recognise that future landowners may be similarly impacted if known risks are not identified and addressed in the planning scheme. Failing to disclose or manage such risks may deprive future purchasers of critical information and limit their ability to make informed decisions or plan appropriately.

The proposed amendment may have financial implications for some landowners within the affected areas. However, deferring action on the findings of flood studies increases long-term exposure to risk and is likely to result in greater future costs—both financial and social.

Relevant State legislation and policy clearly establish the obligation to map and make known any identified flood risks. Council's Planning Department has a statutory responsibility to regulate or prohibit land use and development in areas identified as hazardous, or that may become hazardous, in accordance with section 6(2)(e) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Additionally, Regulation 148 of the *Building Regulations 2018* requires Council to prepare

maps identifying all designated special areas within its municipality, including flood-prone areas.

Compliance with these legal requirements will likely necessitate periodic amendments to the planning scheme as new flood risk assessments and studies are completed over time.

These initiatives reflect a broader trend across Victoria, where flood-related planning scheme amendments are becoming increasingly common. This is driven by improved data availability, more detailed modelling, and the evolving impacts of climate change on rainfall patterns and flood behaviour.

### **South Gippsland Flood Authorities**

The relevant floodplain management authorities in South Gippsland are Melbourne Water and the WGCMA.

All currently available studies recommended by the WGCMA for implementation are proposed for inclusion in the planning scheme amendment to ensure all currently modelled flood-affected areas are identified.

### **Planning Controls**

To implement the above listed flood studies, the WGCMA has prepared maps to revise the existing application of the [Land Subject to Inundation Overlay \(LSIO\)](#)<sup>1</sup> and introduce the [Floodway Overlay \(FO\)](#)<sup>2</sup> for the first time. Amendments are proposed to the existing Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO1), and a new overlay (LSIO2) is proposed to apply specifically to areas where flood events affect property access.

The proposed mapping changes are available in **Attachment [2.4.12]**. A comparison of the proposed flood controls to the existing LSIO extent is also available in **Attachment [2.4.14]**. The townships of Foster, Hedley, and Welshpool are among the most affected areas identified in the mapping.

Both the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO) and the Floodway Overlay (FO) planning controls serve a similar function in identifying land affected by flooding. The LSIO is used to identify land prone to riverine or coastal flooding associated with a 1 per cent Annual Exceedance Probability (1% AEP), commonly referred to as a 1-in-100-year flood event, or other areas as determined by the relevant floodplain management authority. In contrast, the FO is typically applied to areas subject to higher flood risk, such as those with deeper or faster-moving floodwaters, where development is more likely to pose a safety or floodplain obstruction issue.

One key distinction between the LSIO and the FO is that the FO includes a prohibition on the subdivision of any lot that is entirely covered by the overlay.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://planning-schemes.app.planning.vic.gov.au/Victoria%20Planning%20Provisions/ordinance/44.04>

<sup>2</sup> <https://planning-schemes.app.planning.vic.gov.au/Victoria%20Planning%20Provisions/ordinance/44.03>

This provision will make it clear—particularly in areas such as Port Welshpool, that further subdivision is not supported by the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA). This outcome is consistent with the strategic directions and actions outlined in the *South Gippsland Coastal Strategy 2023*, which aims to minimise future development in areas identified as being at high risk from coastal and flood-related hazards.

A copy of the proposed planning scheme schedules is available at **Attachment [2.4.13]**. These can be summarised as follows:

- LSI01 – Land directly affected by inundation;
- LSI02 – Land with unsafe access due to inundation (depth of 0.3m); and
- FO1 – Land directly affected by inundation with a greater level of hazard (unsafe depth of 0.3m).

The West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA) has adopted a flood depth threshold of 0.3 metres to guide the application of the Floodway Overlay (FO) and the new Land Subject to Inundation Overlay 2 (LSI02). The FO applies to land subject to 1 per cent Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) flooding where the modelled flood depth exceeds 0.3 metres. In contrast, LSI02 applies to smaller areas not directly inundated, but where access is affected by floodwaters to a depth of at least 0.3 metres.

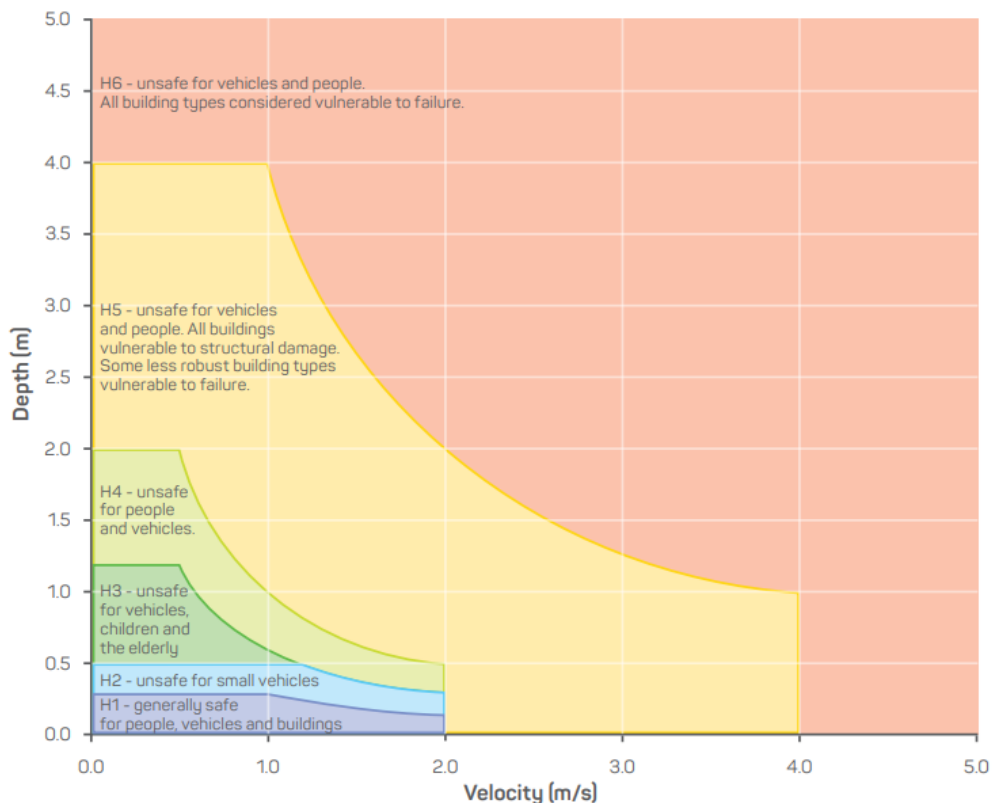
The 0.3 metre threshold reflects the depth at which floodwaters are considered unsafe for small vehicles and is a recognised safety benchmark. This approach is consistent with recent flood amendment practices in Latrobe City and Baw Baw Shire.

This flood depth threshold and its implications for development are illustrated in **Figure 1**, which is sourced from the WGCMA's '[Flood Guidelines - Guidelines for development in flood prone areas](https://wgcm.vic.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/WGCMA-FloodGuidelines-Jan2020-final-web.pdf)' (2020)<sup>3</sup>. The guidelines state that where flood depth during a 1% AEP event is expected to exceed 0.3 metres—either on the development site or along the vehicle access route—proposals that would intensify development (e.g. through subdivision or construction of additional dwellings) are not supported, as they increase the number of people and properties exposed to flood risk.

**Figure 1 – General flood hazard vulnerability curves**

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<sup>3</sup> <https://wgcm.vic.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/WGCMA-FloodGuidelines-Jan2020-final-web.pdf>



Minimal changes are proposed to the planning permit exemptions in the existing LSI0 schedule. The changes aim to improve clarity, enhance consistency with State policy provisions, and introduce greater flexibility into the future, particularly in relation to applicable floor level requirements.

The proposed planning permit triggers for the Floodway Overlay (FO) are intended to align with those currently applied under LSI01, ensuring consistency in how flood-affected land is regulated.

Importantly, as most properties proposed to be affected by the FO are already within the existing LSI0, the proposed changes will not result in an increase in the number of planning permit triggers.

Discussions were held with the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA) regarding whether the construction of a new single dwelling in urban areas should be exempt from requiring planning permission, even if raised above flood levels. Recent decisions by the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT), including the case [Fellows v Bass Coast SC \[2025\] VCAT 43 \(16 January 2025\)](https://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/cases/vic/VCAT/2025/43.html?query=%25222014%2520VCAT%2520373%2522)<sup>4</sup>, have challenged the longstanding assumption that a vacant residential lot should automatically accommodate a single dwelling as-of-right, particularly in flood-affected areas.

Despite this, the WGCMA's current policy continues to recognise the right to construct a single dwelling in urban areas. Consequently, the single dwelling

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/cases/vic/VCAT/2025/43.html?query=%25222014%2520VCAT%2520373%2522>

exemption has been retained and incorporated into the proposed Floodway Overlay (FO) controls.

This matter will continue to be examined as part of the ongoing implementation of the *South Gippsland Coastal Strategy 2023*.

### ***Proposed Amendment Process***

The Department of Transport and Planning, in conjunction with the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA), recommends that Council utilise the State Government's Flood-related Amendments Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) to oversee the amendment process.

The anticipated benefits of engaging the SAC include:

- Achieving an outcome aligned with current best practice in flood control implementation;
- Securing State Government prioritisation of the amendment;
- Increasing certainty for all stakeholders; and
- Reducing the overall timeline of the amendment process.

The SAC is empowered by the Minister for Planning to provide expert advice to the Minister, councils, and catchment management authorities on matters specifically referred to it, including the implementation of flood studies and associated draft planning scheme amendments.

This process supports councils in applying risk-based planning controls by ensuring that once a preferred approach and draft mapping are developed, the State Government commits to implementing the controls. While the SAC pathway is relatively new for flood-related amendments, it has been widely used by councils for activity centre and growth area planning.

The SAC process is expected to take approximately 18 months to complete.

### **CONSULTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Although community consultation has already been conducted for some flood studies, such as the Foster Flood Study, further consultation will be undertaken as part of the draft planning scheme amendment process for the implementation of all flood studies. This approach will clearly communicate the proposed changes to planning controls.

All owners and occupiers of land affected by the proposed amendments will be notified by mail and provided with an opportunity to make a submission on the draft amendment. Any unresolved submissions will be referred to the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) for independent consideration.

## **RESOURCES / FINANCIAL VIABILITY**

Council has secured funding through the State Government's Regional Flood-Related Amendments Program to support the implementation of flood study findings into the planning scheme. This funding is expected to cover the full cost of the planning scheme amendment process, including fees associated with the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC).

## **RISKS**

Maintaining up-to-date flood controls is essential to ensure that landowners are informed of flood risks and that planning decisions adequately consider those risks. This is critical in mitigating potential harm to life, property, and infrastructure.

Failure to act on the recommendations of completed flood studies may expose Council to reputational risk, public criticism, and potential liability in the event of a future flood impacting areas where known risks were not appropriately managed or disclosed.

## **STAFF DISCLOSURE**

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

*Attachments are available on Council's website at the following [LINK](#).*

1. Floodplain Mapping for Hedley, 2024 [2.4.1 - 35 pages]
2. Floodplain Mapping for Shady Creek, Welshpool, 2024 [2.4.2 - 45 pages]
3. 1486-1488 & 1492 Korumburra Wonthaggi Rd, Kongwak – Preliminary Flood Analysis (Kongwak Butter & Cheese), 2023 [2.4.3 - 15 pages]
4. Inverloch Region Coastal Hazard Assessment, 2022 - Key Reports [2.4.4 - 489 pages]
5. Flood Impact Assessment 421 Barry Road, Welshpool, 2021 [2.4.5 - 12 pages]
6. Council Minutes - Flood and Drainage Study for Foster and Surrounding Catchments 2019 - 17 July 2024 [2.4.6 - 311 pages]
7. Floodplain Mapping for Tarwin River East Branch, 2019 [2.4.7 - 57 pages]
8. Floodplain Mapping for Tarwin River West Branch, 2019 [2.4.8 - 75 pages]
9. Floodplain Mapping for Fish Creek, 2018 [2.4.9 - 60 pages]
10. Corner Inlet Dynamic Storm Tide Modelling Assessment, 2014 [2.4.10 - 45 pages]
11. The Effect of Climate Change on Extreme Sea Levels Along Victoria's Coast, 2009 [2.4.11 - 58 pages]
12. Proposed Draft Flood Control Mapping [2.4.12 - 27 pages]
13. Proposed Draft Flood Control Schedules [2.4.13 - 7 pages]
14. Existing & Proposed Draft Flood Control Mapping [2.4.14 - 27 pages]

## **REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

### **Council's Good Governance Framework**

Pillar 1. Direction & Leadership

Pillar 3. Decision Making

### **Council Policy / Strategy / Plans**

*Documents are available on Council's website at the following [LINK](#).*

South Gippsland Coastal Strategy

Council Plan 2022-2026

South Gippsland's Planning Scheme

### **Legislative Provisions**

Planning and Environment Act 1987

### **Regional, State and National Plan and Policies**

West Gippsland Regional Floodplain Management Strategy 2018-2027



## 2.5. GRANT OPPORTUNITY - 2025/26 COUNTRY FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB FUNDING PROGRAM

Directorate:	Sustainable Infrastructure
Department:	Infrastructure Planning

### Council Plan

#### *Objective - Healthy and Engaged Communities*

*This report relates to the Council Plan through the sustainable improvement of Council's infrastructure. To create places and spaces for people to connect and participate in local activities, sports and leisure, community events, and enjoy our libraries, parks, gardens and coastal areas.*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of a funding application to the *Victorian Government's 2025-2026 Country Football and Netball Program* for the Leongatha Recreation Reserve lighting upgrade.

The report also seeks endorsement of a financial contribution towards the Nyora Recreation Reserve lighting upgrade following announcement by the Victorian Government that they will make a \$150,000 contribution towards this project.

### RECOMMENDATION

#### That Council:

- 1. Endorse the application for \$250,000 under the Victorian Government's 2025-2026 Country Football and Netball Program for the Leongatha Recreation Reserve lighting upgrade;**
- 2. Agree to contribute \$50,000 excluding GST to the Leongatha Recreation Reserve lighting upgrade if the funding application is successful; and**
- 3. Agree to contribute \$150,000 excluding GST to the Nyora Recreation Reserve lighting upgrade subject to confirmation of funding provided through the Victorian Government budget.**

### REPORT

On 27 February 2025, the 2025-2026 Country Football and Netball program opened, with applications closing on 7 July 2025.

The 2025-2026 Country Football and Netball Program is an initiative that invests in community football and netball infrastructure focused on providing high-quality, female-friendly, safe, and accessible facilities to support football and netball clubs in rural, regional, and outer metropolitan communities.

The program allows for up to three applications, However, the total funding sought cannot exceed \$250,000 per LGA and no application can exceed the maximum grant amount of \$250,000.

Project types eligible for funding include:

- Developing new or redeveloping change rooms and pavilions to increase capacity, inclusion, and safety.
- Developing new or redeveloping existing sports ovals and courts to increase capacity, inclusion, and safety.
- Sports lighting that improves facility capacity and participant safety.
- Projects that result in energy or water efficiency, with a direct impact on participation, such as warm season grass conversions.
- Infrastructure on school land with confirmed community use.
- Projects that benefit multi use outcomes where football or netball is the primary beneficiary.

Officers had identified two projects that have been adequately planned that would fit the criteria for the 2025-2026 Country Football and Netball Program. They are Leongatha Recreation Reserve lighting upgrade and the Nyora Recreation Reserve lighting upgrade.

Following the release of the State Government budget, an announcement has been made that a contribution of \$150,000 will be provided towards the installation of lighting at the Nyora Recreation Reserve. This announcement means that this project at the Nyora Recreation Reserve would be ineligible for funding under the 2025-2026 Country Football and Netball Program.

### **CONSULTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Officers have worked with both clubs on the grant application process and required supporting documentation. Both clubs have actively promoted their intentions to seek funding towards lighting improvements via social media and letters have been sent to neighbouring residents advising them of the proposed works.

Consultation has been undertaken with AFL Victoria and DEECA to confirm their support for these projects.

Both Clubs also contacted Mr Tom McIntosh MP to discuss their respective projects.

### **RESOURCES / FINANCIAL VIABILITY**

Funding ratios apply to the 2025-2026 Country Football and Netball Program at the rate of SRV \$3: Local Government \$1.

**Table 1 – Leongatha Recreation Reserve Budget Breakdown**

Item	Amount Excl. GST
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2025/26 Country Football Netball Program	\$250,000
Council Contribution	\$50,000
Club Contribution	\$50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>

**Table 2 – Nyora Recreation Reserve Budget Breakdown**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount Excl. GST</b>
State Government budget commitment	\$150,000
Council Contribution	\$150,000
Club Contribution	\$50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>

The Leongatha and Nyora Football Netball Clubs have indicated they have the financial capacity to meet their obligations towards the delivery of these projects if approved.

The 2025-2026 draft budget includes a \$300,000 allocation for Council's contribution. The current proposed Council contribution towards these projects is \$200,000. If these projects can be delivered together it is anticipated that saving in the total project cost could be achieved. Potentially reducing Council financial commitment towards the delivery of these projects.

## **RISKS**

- Grant programs are highly competitive with no guarantees of securing funding even with well-prepared applications.
- Leongatha and Nyora Recreation Reserves are located on Crown Land that the Council does not manage. Therefore any lighting infrastructure delivered under these projects will not be Council assets.

## **STAFF DISCLOSURE**

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

*Attachments are available on Council's website at the following [LINK](#).*

Nil

**REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

**Council's Good Governance Framework**

Pillar 3. Decision Making

**Council Policy / Strategy / Plans**

*Documents are available on Council's website at the following [LINK](#).*

Nil

**Legislative Provisions**

Nil

**Regional, State and National Plan and Policies**

Nil

## 2.6. INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION - S6 COUNCIL TO MEMBERS OF STAFF

Directorate:	Strategy & Partnerships
Department:	Governance and Integrity

### Council Plan

*Objective - Leading with Integrity*

*Council's governance is strengthened by maintaining currency in the delegations and authorisations to Officers, so they can undertake the functions they are required to perform on behalf of Council.*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to recommend that Council adopts an updated S6 Instrument of Delegation - Council to Members of Staff (**Attachment [2.6.1]**) to include adding a new provision to the *Road Management Act 2024* for relevant officers and updating conditions and limitations for the *Food Act 1984*.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council resolves that, in the exercise of the powers conferred by s.11(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 and the other legislation referred to in the attached S6 Instrument of Delegation - Council to Members of Staff (Attachment [2.6.1]):**

- 1. Members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the officers or positions referred to in (Attachment [2.6.1]) be delegated with the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument of Delegation;**
- 2. The Chief Executive Officer is authorised to sign the S6 Instrument of Delegation (Attachment [2.6.1]), to come into force immediately upon signing;**
- 3. Upon this Instrument of Delegation (Attachment [2.6.1]) coming into force, all previous delegations from Council to members of Council staff (other than the Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer) are revoked; and**

- 4. The duties and functions set out in the Instrument of Delegation Attachment [2.6.1]) must be performed by Council officers delegated to do so, and the powers set out in the Instrument of Delegation must be executed by them, in accordance with any guidelines or policies that Council may adopt.**

## **REPORT**

The allocation of delegations to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or other employees contributes to the effective functioning of Council. It is important to update delegations to reflect changes in personnel / legislation and improvements recommended by legal advisors to ensure decisions made are valid.

The current version of the Instrument of Delegation has been in place since 19 February 2025 and will be revoked as per Part 3 of the above recommendation.

Changes to the S6 Instrument of Delegation, Council to Members of Council staff (S6) are outlined below:

- Adding a new provision for s12(2)(b) of the *Road Management Act 2024* - Function of providing consent to the Head of Transport for Victoria for the discontinuance of a road or part of a road to the Manager Infrastructure Planning, Manager Infrastructure Maintenance and Director Sustainable Infrastructure.
- Updating the Conditions and Limitations for several provisions under the Food Act 1984 those being s19FA(1), s19FA(3)(a) & (b) & (c).

## **CONSULTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Nil

## **RESOURCES / FINANCIAL VIABILITY**

Nil

## **RISKS**

Failure to update an Instrument of Delegation could result in the decisions of delegated Officers being declared invalid or unenforceable.

## **STAFF DISCLOSURE**

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachments are available on Council's website at the following [LINK](#).

1. S6 Instrument of Delegation - Council to Members of Staff - 18 June 2025 [2.6.1 - 142 pages]

## **REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

### **Council's Good Governance Framework**

Pillar 7. Risk & Compliance

### **Council Policy / Strategy / Plans**

*Documents are available on Council's website at the following [LINK](#).*

Governance Rules (C82)

### **Legislative Provisions**

*Local Government Act 2020*

### **Regional, State and National Plan and Policies**

Nil

## 2.7. INSTRUMENT OF APPOINTMENT - S11A PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987

Directorate:	Strategy & Partnerships
Department:	Governance and Integrity

### Council Plan

*Objective - Leading with Integrity*

*Council's governance is strengthened by maintaining currency in the delegations to Officers with the functions they are required to perform on behalf of Council.*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report recommends that Council adopts S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987) for staff member, Katelyn Balfour, under the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council resolves, in the exercise of the powers conferred by s.147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, s.224 of the *Local Government Act 1989* and s.313 of the *Local Government Act 2020*:**

- 1. The members of Council staff referred to in the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisations (Attachment 2.6.1) be appointed and authorised as set out in the instrument and detailed in this report; and**
- 2. The Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation come into force immediately when signed by Council's Chief Executive Officer. It will remain in force until such time as Council determines to vary it, or it is revoked by Council's Chief Executive Officer in the event:**
  - a. the officer resigns from Council; or**
  - b. is appointed to a position where this appointment and authorisation is not required or suitable.**

### REPORT

Appointing appropriately qualified officers to make decisions in accordance with enabling legislation contributes to the effective functioning of Council. Authorisations provide powers to officers to administer and enforce any Act, regulations or local laws which relate to the functions and powers of the Council. It is important to ensure that formal Instruments are arranged for new staff, updated to reflect changes in personnel, or amended to reflect changes in the legislation.



A S11A Instrument has been prepared for the new staff member listed below and is presented for adoption. This authorisation will enable the officer to fulfil the required legislative compliance duties inherent in the role.

- **Katelyn Balfour** – Planning Liaison Officer

The Instruments are contained in (**Attachment [2.6.1]**)

#### **CONSULTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Nil

#### **RESOURCES / FINANCIAL VIABILITY**

Nil

#### **RISKS**

Failure to adopt, update or revoke an Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation could result in a decision of an employee being invalidated or Council being held liable for the actions of former employees.

#### **STAFF DISCLOSURE**

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

*Attachments are available on Council's website at the following [LINK](#).*

1. S11A Instrument of Appointment - Planning and Environment Act 1987 - Katelyn Balfour - Council Meeting 18 June 2025 [**2.7.1** - 1 page]

#### **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

#### **REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

##### **Council's Good Governance Framework**

Pillar 3. Decision Making

##### **Council Policy / Strategy / Plans**

*Documents are available on Council's website at the following [LINK](#).*

Nil

##### **Legislative Provisions**

*Local Government Act 2020*

*Local Government Act 1989*

*Planning and Environment Act 1987*

##### **Regional, State and National Plan and Policies**

Nil

## 2.8. SUMMARY OF STRATEGIC BRIEFINGS - 13 APRIL 2025 - 12 MAY 2025

Directorate:	Strategy & Partnerships
Department:	Governance and Integrity

### Council Plan

*Objective - Leading with Integrity*

*Council's transparency and governance is strengthened by regularly reporting on summaries of briefings held, that assist Council to make informed decisions in Council Meetings on behalf of the community.*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the information presented to Councillors between 13 April 2025 and 12 May 2025.

This aligns with the principles of the *Local Government Act 2020* and supports transparency around Council decisions and actions.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council receives and notes this report, the Summary of Strategic Briefings - 13 April 2025 – 12 May 2025.**

### REPORT

Meeting Title	Details
<b>Wednesday 16 April 2025</b>	
<b>South Gippsland Water</b>	<p><b>Councillor Attending</b> Clare Williams, John Schelling, Scott Rae, Sarah Gilligan, Nathan Hersey, Steve Finlay, Bron Beach, John Kennedy and Brad Snell</p> <p><b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nil</p>
<b>NBNCo - Digital Connectivity Plan</b>	<p><b>Councillor Attending</b> Clare Williams, John Schelling, Scott Rae, Sarah Gilligan, Nathan Hersey, Steve Finlay, Bron Beach, John Kennedy and Brad Snell</p> <p><b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nil</p>
<b>Procurement Update</b>	<b>Councillor Attending</b>

Meeting Title	Details
	<p>Clare Williams, John Schelling, Scott Rae, Nathan Hersey, Steve Finlay, Bron Beach, John Kennedy and Brad Snell</p> <p><b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nil</p>
<b>Wednesday 7 May 2025</b>	
<p><b>Planning Monthly Briefing Update</b></p>	<p><b>Councillor Attending</b> Clare Williams, John Schelling, Nathan Hersey, Steve Finlay, Bron Beach and Brad Snell</p> <p><b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nil</p>
<p><b>Quarter 3 - Organisational and Financial Performance Report - July 2024 to March 2025</b></p>	<p><b>Councillor Attending</b> Clare Williams, John Schelling, Scott Rae, Nathan Hersey, Steve Finlay, Bron Beach and Brad Snell</p> <p><b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nil</p>

<b>Licence/Lease Review</b>	<b>Councillor Attending</b> John Schelling, Scott Rae, Nathan Hersey, Steve Finlay, Bron Beach and Brad Snell  <b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Cr Nathan Hersey
<b>Grant Opportunity - 2025-26 Country Football Netball Club Funding Program</b>	<b>Councillor Attending</b> John Schelling, Scott Rae, Nathan Hersey, Steve Finlay, Bron Beach and Brad Snell  <b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nil
<b>2024/25 Community Grants - Round 2</b>	<b>Councillor Attending</b> John Schelling, Scott Rae, Nathan Hersey, Steve Finlay, Bron Beach and Brad Snell  <b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Cr Bron Beach Cr Nathan Hersey

## STAFF DISCLOSURE

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.

## ATTACHMENTS

Nil

## REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

### **Council's Good Governance Framework**

Pillar 3. Decision Making

### **Council Policy / Strategy / Plans**

*Documents are available on Council's website at the following [LINK](#).*

Public Transparency Policy (C75)

### **Legislative Provisions**

*Local Government Act 2020*

## 2.9. DOCUMENTS SEALED, CONTRACTS VARIED, AWARDED OR EXTENDED BY CEO - 13 APRIL 2025 -12 MAY 2025

Directorate:	Performance and Innovation
Department:	Financial Strategy

### Council Plan

*Objective - Leading with Integrity*

*Council's transparency of financial decisions made and overall financial sustainability is strengthened by regularly reporting on documents sealed, contracts awarded, varied or extended under the CEO's delegation.*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report documents the following actions undertaken by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) which occurred during the period 13 April 2025 to 12 May 2025. Council's *Procurement Policy (C32)* requires the CEO to report to Council any of the following actions undertaken to the next appropriate Meeting:

- Documents sealed;
- Contracts awarded after a public tender process within the CEO's delegation;
- Contracts varied or extended by the CEO which exceeded the CEO's delegation;

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council receives and notes this report Documents Sealed, Contracts Varied, Awarded or Extended by CEO - 13 April 2025 -12 May 2025.**

### REPORT

Under the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), s.14 states that each Council is a body corporate with perpetual succession; and must have a common seal. Sealing a document makes it an official document of Council as a corporate body. Documents that require sealing include agreements, leases or any other contractual or legally binding document that binds Council to another party.

Use of the *General Local Law 2024*, Part 5 - Administration, clause 65 – Common Seal of Council, states that if the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) uses the Common Seal in a manner described by sub-clause (5), this means on the authority of a Council resolution, then Council must be advised of such use on a regular basis.

In accordance with the *General Local Law 2024*, Part 5 - Administration, clause 65 (6), the following are presented to Council as documents sealed during the period from 13 April 2025 to 12 May 2025.

Nil

In accordance with the *General Local Law 2024*, Instrument of Delegation and *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, the following are presented to Council as documents sealed during the period from 13 April 2025 to 12 May 2025.

Nil

### **Contracts Awarded, Varied or Extended**

In accordance with Council's Procurement Policy where contracts are awarded under delegation, varied or extended, they are required to be reported to the next practicable Council Meeting.

1. Contracts awarded by Council after a public tender process, signed by the CEO between 13 April 2025 to 12 May 2025.

- a. Nil

2. Contracts awarded after a public tender process within the CEO's delegation between 13 April 2025 to 12 May 2025.

- a. Nil

3. Contract variations approved by the CEO between 13 April 2025 to 12 May 2025.

- a. Nil

4. Contract extensions approved by the CEO 13 April 2025 to 12 May 2025.

- a. Nil

### **STAFF DISCLOSURE**

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have considered and determined that they do not have a conflict of interest in the matter.

### **REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

#### **Council's Good Governance Framework**

Pillar 3. Decision Making

#### **Council Policy / Strategy / Plans**

*Documents are available on Council's website at the following [LINK](#).*

Governance Rules (C82)

General Local Law 2024

Procurement Policy (C32)

**Legislative Provisions**

Local Government Act 1989

Local Government Act 2020

Planning and Environment Act 1987

### **3. NOTICES OF MOTION AND/OR RESCISSION**

#### **3.1. NIL**



#### **4. COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

##### **4.1. REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

##### **4.2. COUNCILLOR UPDATES**

## 5. URGENT BUSINESS

Normally no motion should be debated by Councillors unless the matter is already included as an item on the Agenda. However, in some circumstances it is possible to raise urgent motions.

Council's *Governance Rules 2020* (clause 22 - Urgent Business) adopted on 19 October 2022, allows for where a situation has not been provided for under the *Governance Rules*, the Council may determine the matter by resolution. Established practice has provided for urgent motions to be raised at Council provided the matter cannot be dealt with at the next Council Meeting or by Officers under delegation.

It is necessary for the Councillor wishing to raise a matter of urgent business to raise a motion similar to the following:

'That consideration of (the issue) be dealt with as a matter of urgent business and Councillor....be allowed a 'short period' to indicate the reason(s) why the matter should be considered as a matter of urgent business.' If the Chairperson accepts the motion as meeting the urgent business criteria, normal meeting procedures in Council's *Governance Rules 2020*, clause 22 will apply.

If the motion to accept the item as a matter of urgent business is passed by Council, the motion relating to the specific issue can then be put and debated in the normal way.

## 6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

### 6.1. PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

Petitions and Joint Letters are written requests that have been signed by a number of community members. According to the *Governance Rules (C82)*, *clause 57*, members of the community may submit a valid petition or joint letter to a Councillor or to Council addressed to the Chief Executive Officer.

At the Meeting a petition or joint letter is presented, Council will consider a motion to receive it, the matter itself will not be considered unless determined as urgent business.

The Councillor presenting the petition or joint letter is responsible for ensuring that they are familiar with the contents and purpose of the petition or joint letter and that it does not contain language disrespectful to Council.

The requirements of the lead petitioner are detailed in the *Governance Rules (C82)*, *clause 57*.

Source: [Governance Rules \(C82\)](#) – adopted 19 October 2022.

## 6.2. ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Answers to previous questions taken on notice at a former Council Meeting, are included in the Minutes of this Meeting.

Background material submitted with a question will not be recorded in the Council Meeting Minutes.

Source: [Governance Rules \(C82\)](#) – adopted 19 October 2022.

**Council received four sets of public questions that were taken on notice at the 21 May 2025 Council Meeting. Two sets of questions will be answered at the Council Meeting, one set was a duplicate and one set was unable to be answered as it does not comply with the Governance Rules.**

### 6.3. SUBMITTED PUBLIC QUESTIONS

All community member questions for Council Meetings are to be written and submitted to the Governance Team by 9.00am on the Monday morning preceding the Council Meeting to allow time for a response to be prepared, where possible, for the Council Meeting. All reasonable attempts will be made to answer pre-submitted questions at the Meeting. When further time is required to prepare an answer, questions may be taken on notice and responses will be provided at the next Council Meeting.

On the day of the Meeting, questions on the prescribed form must be received prior to the commencement of the Council Meeting by 2.00pm and placed in the receptacle at the Governance Officers table. These questions will be taken on notice, included in the Minutes and responses provided at the next Council Meeting.

Public Question Time in Council Meetings is to be used for matters that are relevant to the business or functions of Council and are clear and legible.

Questions may not be allowed where the question(s) is deemed to be:

- Related to a matter beyond or outside the powers of Council;
- Trivial or frivolous;
- Defamatory, indecent, abusive or objectionable;
- Derogatory or designed to embarrass a Councillor, a member of Council staff or a member of the community;
- Related to subject matter previously received and responded to;
- Related to a matter already considered and resolved upon by Council;
- Breach Council's confidentiality obligations; and/or
- Illegible, vague or not make sense.

A person may submit a maximum of three (3) questions for any one Council Meeting, this includes a combined total of three (3) questions for related parties or groups. The total word count of all questions submitted is to be 100 words or fewer.

Background material submitted with a question will not be read out or recorded in the Council Meeting Minutes.

The CEO retains the discretion, in consultation with the Mayor, to not refer questions to Council meetings if there is a more effective or appropriate way to respond to the matters raised. Answers to questions from a member of the community who is present in the gallery will be read out at the Council Meeting by the CEO or Mayor.

Source: [Governance Rules \(C82\)](#) – adopted 19 October 2022.

## 7. CLOSED SESSION

The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), section 66 provides that if a council or delegated committee determines that a meeting is to be closed to the public to consider confidential information, the Council or delegated committee must record in the minutes of the meeting that are available for public inspection –

- a) the ground or grounds for determining to close the meeting to the public by reference to the grounds specified in the definition of ***confidential information*** in section 3(1); and
- b) an explanation of why the specified ground or grounds applied.

The Act defines ***confidential information*** in s.3(1)(a)-(l), and includes information that may prejudice or impact; commercial negotiations, the security of Council, land use planning, law enforcement, legal privilege, personal information, private commercial information, confidential meeting information, internal arbitration, Councillor conduct panel information and information specified under s.77 of the previous *Local Government Act 1989*.

Once confidential information has been considered and decided in a closed session of a Council Meeting, a further resolution to resume open Council is required.

## RECOMMENDATION

**That Council pursuant to section 66(5)(a) and (b) of the *Local Government Act 2020* close the Council Meeting to the public to consider the following confidential information:**

1. **Per s.3(1)(f) Agenda item 9.1 - PERSONAL INFORMATION - South Gippsland Shire Council Community Grants Program 2024/25 Round 2, designated as personal information,**
  - a. **being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs;**
  - b. **the grounds for designation have been made to protect the privacy of the applicants (personal information).**

## **8. MEETING CLOSED**

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next Council Meeting open to the public will be held on Wednesday, 16 July 2025 commencing at 2pm in the Council Chambers, Leongatha.