

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

# Council Meeting Agenda

Wednesday 20 May 2026



Council Chambers, Leongatha  
Commencing at 2:00 PM



*South Gippsland  
Shire Council*

# OUR COUNCIL PLAN VISION STATEMENT

*Our South Gippsland community is connected, resilient and empowered. We value our unique townships, our rural and coastal landscapes, while balancing growth.*

*A prosperous region, we draw strength from: visitor experience, emerging and creative industries, our agricultural sector and natural environment. We lead with purpose, are forward thinking, and deliver consolidated and sustainable services for our community.*

The Council Agenda relates to the following Strategic Objectives of the Council Plan 2025-2029.



Leading with Integrity



Developing a Sustainable Future



Empowering Communities

## SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that Council Meeting of the  
South Gippsland Shire Council will be held on Wednesday 20 May 2026  
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 Council's *Governance Rules, clause 57.6 the submission of agenda public questions has now closed. Questions must be received by Council, 24 hours prior to the commencement of the Council Meeting. Questions received within 24 hours of 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 15 April 2026 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 declaring a 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, Chapter 5 – Clause 2 - 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.

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

**Councillor John Schelling has declared a material Conflict of Interest for Agenda Item 5.3 Proposed lease - Lewis Street Port Welshpool, as the subject matter relates to his employer at Evans Petroleum.**

## 1.8. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST FOR STAFF

The *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), Division 2 sets out the requirements relating to declaring a 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, Chapter 5, clause 6, 7 and 8* 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* can be accessed from [Council's Policies](#) webpage.

## 2. AGENDA PUBLIC QUESTIONS

### 2.1. 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, Division 9 - clause 58 – Petitions and Joint Letters*, members of the community may submit a valid petition or joint letter to a Councillor or to Council addressed to the Chief Executive Officer.

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*, available on Council's website.

**Council received a petition with 2,476 signatures on Tuesday 5 May 2026, in relation to requesting a zero rate rise for Council's Annual Budgets from 2026/27 – 2028/29.**

**In accordance with Section 58.7 of Council's *Governance Rules*, this petition will be considered as a submission as part of the 2026/27 Annual Budget process. Furthermore, this item will be presented at the 17 June 2026 Council Meeting.**

## **2.2. ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS AGENDA PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Answers to previous questions taken on notice at a former Council Meeting, may be included in the Minutes of this Meeting or alternatively responded to as a customer request inline with Council's *Customer Service Charter and Governance Rules*, available on Council's website.

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

### 2.3. SUBMITTED AGENDA PUBLIC QUESTIONS

All community member questions for Council Meetings are to be written and submitted 24 hours prior to the commencement of a Council Meeting to allow time for a response to be prepared. Reasonable efforts will be made to answer pre-submitted questions at the Meeting. Any question received after the closing time of 24 hours prior to the commencement of a Council Meeting, will be held over to the next scheduled Council Meeting.

When further time is required to prepare an answer, questions may be taken-on-notice and responses will be included in the minutes of the next Council Meeting or alternatively responded to as a customer request in line with Council's *Customer Service Charter* and *Governance Rules*, available on Council's website.

At the Meeting, the person submitting the question(s) may have the option to read out their question(s) and will be recorded in the minutes. Questions may not be allowed where the question(s) is deemed to be:

- is not relevant to any Council agenda topic
- relates to a matter outside the duties, functions and powers of Council;
- is defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable in language or substance;
- deals with a subject matter already publicly answered; or is repetitious or vexatious questions from the same *Questioner*;
- is aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or a member of Council staff;
- relates to personnel matters; personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer;
- industrial matters; contractual matters; proposed developments; legal advice; law enforcement matters; or
- relates to confidential information as defined under the Act; or
- relates to matters affecting the security of Council property;
- is illegible, vague, not make sense or not be a question;
- relates to council business information and operational matters not specific to Council meeting agenda topics; and/or
- relates to any other matter which Council considers would prejudice Council or any person

A person may submit up to three (3) questions, 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 200 words or fewer. Background material submitted with a question will not be read out or recorded in the Council Meeting minutes.

The CEO, in consultation with the Mayor, may decide not to refer a question to a Council Meeting if there is a more appropriate way to respond. Questions and responses may be read out by the Chair or a nominated Councillor or Council staff.

Public question time in the agenda will not exceed 15 minutes in duration, unless extended by a further 15 minutes by a resolution of Council.

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

#### **3.1. NOTICE OF MOTION - FORMALLY OPPOSE THE REQUIREMENT FOR SEPERATE KERBSIDE GLASS BIN**

##### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Notice of Motion is to formally oppose the requirement for a separate kerbside glass bin and write to the Victorian Minister for Environment to reconsider the compulsory glass kerbside collection service.

##### **MOTION**

I, Councillor Nathan Hersey, advise that I intend to submit the following motion to the Council Meeting scheduled to be held on 20 May 2026.

##### **That Council:**

- 1. Formally opposes the Victorian Government's requirement for a separate kerbside glass bin.**
- 2. Writes to the Minister for Environment seeking reconsideration of the compulsory glass kerbside collection service, and requests:**
- 3. Improved transparency regarding the business case supporting the introduction of a fourth bin;**
  - a. A review of the current policy settings that extends the flexibility of Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme;**
  - b. Allow Councils to adopt alternative and locally appropriate glass recovery methods, including central drop-off points; and**
  - c. Consideration of extending or removing the 1 July 2027 deadline, which currently requires Councils to budget, plan, and procure glass bins without a clearly articulated business case.**

##### **BACKGROUND**

Provisions for a full purple bin rollout for kerbside collection in South Gippsland Shire Council has not been accommodated for within the draft budget 2026/2027.

Drop off points throughout South Gippsland Shire will be more cost effective and support recycling, noting that approximately 50 per cent of residents are serviced with kerbside collections.

Improvements to the Container Deposit Scheme will have a more lasting outcome.

#### 4. 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 23 - Urgent Business*, 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 23* 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.

## 5. COUNCIL REPORTS

### 5.1. FISH CREEK FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB (FCFC) - LEASE PROPOSAL AND ACQUISITION

Directorate:	Infrastructure Sustainability
Department:	Infrastructure Planning

#### Council Plan

*Theme - Empowering Communities*

*Council assists with the planning of community and recreation facilities.*

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council consideration of a ground lease to the Fish Creek Football Netball Club Inc over part of John Terrill Park situated at 47 Falls Road Fish Creek for the construction of a pavilion, as well as the purchase of separate land within 47A Falls Road, Fish Creek from the Fish Creek Football Netball Club for \$170,000 for on-site wastewater management.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

- 1. Notes that no community submissions were submitted for the proposed land lease of 1654m<sup>2</sup> at John Terrill Park 47 Falls Road, Fish Creek.**
- 2. Approves, under section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the granting of a lease over 1,654m<sup>2</sup> at John Terrill Park, 47 Falls Road, Fish Creek, to the Fish Creek Football Netball Club Inc., on the following terms:**
  - a) The lease is for land only
  - b) The lease term is 50 years
  - c) Rent is the standard community rental set under Council's Leasing Policy (currently \$104.00 plus GST per annum)
  - d) The permitted use is for the construction and use of a new building for club rooms and associated community purposes
- 3. Approves the purchase of 47A Falls Road, Fish Creek, for \$170,000 and allocates \$170,000 from the Asset Development Reserve to fund the purchase.**
- 4. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate, to execute the land purchase and withdrawal from Asset Development Reserve and negotiate**

**all the further terms and conditions to execute the lease and any associated documentation.**

**REPORT**

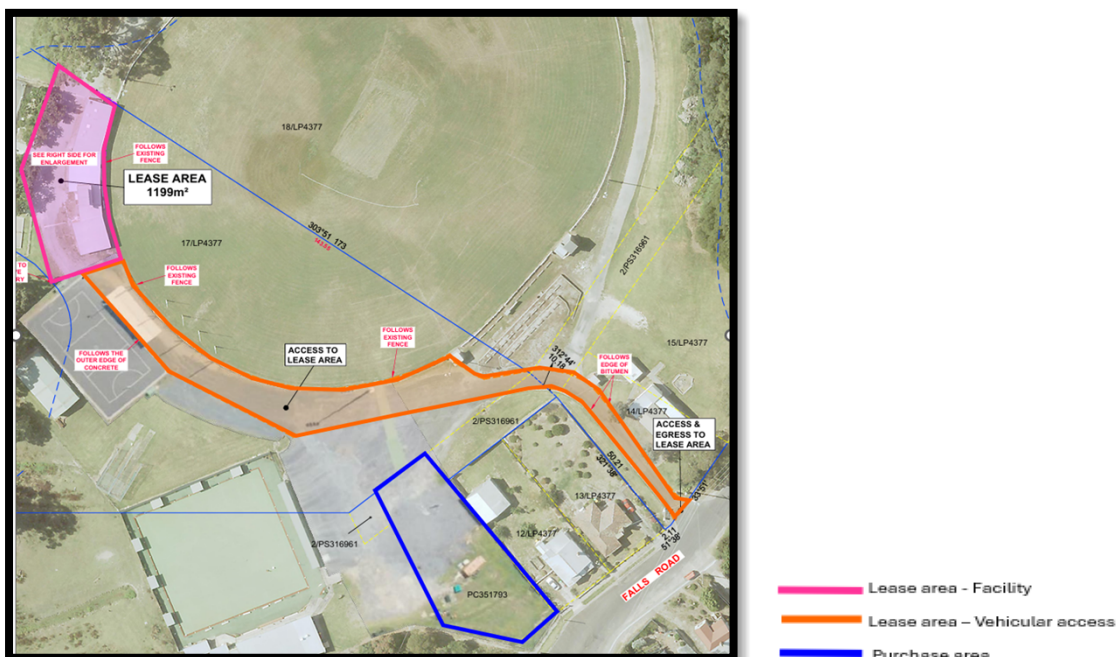
In November 2023, the Fish Creek Football Netball Club suffered a devastating setback when their clubrooms were destroyed by arson. Since then, the club has worked tirelessly to secure their own funding and assistance from Sport and Recreation Victoria and Regional Development Victoria to support the construction of a new pavilion at John Terrill Park, Fish Creek.

The John Terrill Park recreation precinct consists of a bowls club, scout hall and recreation facilities, in addition to the adjacent Fish Creek Pre-School. As Council-owned land and facilities, they serve an important community function and represent significant public assets.

Council at its ordinary meeting, held 10 December 2025, resolved to commence the statutory procedures to consider a lease for an area of 1654m<sup>2</sup> at John Terrill Park, Fish Creek, to the Fish Creek Football Netball Club Inc. (the Club) **see Figure 1** on the following terms:

- The lease shall be for land only;
- The term of the lease shall be for 50 years
- The rental shall be the standard community rental fixed from time to time in Council’s leasing policy, currently \$104.00 plus GST per annum;
- The permitted use shall be for the construction and use of a new building for club rooms and associated community purposes.

**Figure 1**



## **CONSULTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Public notice was placed in local newspapers and Council's website in the week commencing 26 January 2026, inviting submissions to the proposal.

Submissions closed on 25 February 2026. There were no submissions received.

## **RESOURCES / FINANCIAL VIABILITY**

For the Clubs Pavilion build to proceed, Council will be required to demolish the existing change facilities and associated pavilion infrastructure within the lease area and to install a new wastewater treatment system.

The proposed wastewater treatment system will service the proposed new pavilion, scout hall, bowling club and pre-school within/adjacent to the precinct.

Contributions will be sought from major users to support the ongoing operational and maintenance costs of the system.

Council has undertaken an independent land valuation and negotiated with the Club to the agreed valuation amount to purchase 47A Falls Road, Fish Creek for the provision of an onsite wastewater system to service John Terrill Park and the Fish Creek Pre-School.

It is proposed that Council's Asset Development Reserve be accessed to fund this land acquisition for \$170,000.

The design of the wastewater treatment system is able to be accommodated within the 2025/26 budget, and Council has proposed an allocation of \$560,000 in its draft 2026/2027 budget to enable the precinct-wide works to occur.

## **RISKS**

Future construction of a club room building on the leased land remains the responsibility of the Fish Creek Football Netball Club Inc, and any costs, and /or cost overruns related to the building itself remains the responsibility of the Club.

The building will also require a Planning Permit (to be managed by the Club), and EPA approval required for the wastewater system (to be managed by Council).

## **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](#).*

Leasing Policy (C62)

**Legislative Provisions**

*Local Government Act 2020*

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

Nil

## 5.2. ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE REPORT - 1 JULY 2025 TO 31 MARCH 2026

Directorate:	Strategy and Integrity
Department:	Governance and Integrity

### Council Plan

*Objective - Leading with Integrity*

*Council's governance is strengthened by regular organisational performance reporting against the annual actions of the 2025-2029 Council Plan and annual budget.*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the Organisational Performance Report for the period of 1 July 2025 to 31 March 2026 (**Attachment [5.2.1]**) which includes the financial and organisational performance against the adopted Annual Budget and highlights progress of the 2025/26 Annual Actions of the *2025-2029 Council Plan* (Council Plan).

Council adopted 30 Annual Actions for 2025/26, in which all actions are on track to be completed by 30 June 2026.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

- 1. Receives and notes the Organisational Performance Report for the period July 2025 to March 2026 (Attachment [5.2.1]);**
- 2. Accepts the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, as required under s.97(3) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, that a revised budget is not required; and**
- 3. Presents the Organisational Performance Report (Attachment [5.2.1]) for the period July 2025 to March 2026 to the 16 June 2026 Audit and Risk Committee for information.**

### REPORT

The role of Council is to provide leadership for the good governance of the Shire. This is achieved, in part, by establishing strategic directions articulated in a four-year Council Plan and supported by an adopted Budget that contains the first (annual) financial year and subsequent three financial years. These requirements are legislated under ss.90 and 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (Act).

Council endorsed the 2025/26 Annual Actions as part of the *2025-2029 Council Plan* at the 18 June 2025 Council Meeting. The Council Plan outlines three themes which include:

- Leading with Integrity;
- Developing a Sustainable Future; and
- Empowering Communities.

The *Council Plan* connects these objective themes and outlines Council's priorities, major actions and measure of success indicators for the next four years. These Annual Actions are adopted each year in the Budget and are monitored and reported to Council within each Quarterly Performance Report.

### ***Key Highlights of the Organisational Performance Report***

Highlights from work undertaken to achieve the Annual Actions are below:

- Council conducted five budget workshops with Councillors to develop Council's 2026/27 Annual Budget and Council Plan Actions. The Draft document has been prepared by seeking pre-budget community consultation feedback, organisational and Councillor input and is on schedule to be presented at the April 2026 Council Meeting, for further consultation.
- The six-week community consultation on the Draft *Community Engagement Policy* and *Community Engagement Strategy* concluded in November 2025. This Strategy and Policy have considered the feedback and are on schedule to be presented for consideration at the May 2026 Council Meeting.
- A Heritage Review is progressing well, with background studies complete and community engagement on schedule to occur in May 2026.
- A draft Planning Scheme Review Report has been prepared and is soon to be released for community consideration.
- Preliminary work has commenced on a review of the *Economic Development Strategy*, including consideration of key themes and actions. Council hosted a workshop in February 2026, with industry representatives to explore emerging trends and opportunities in South Gippsland to assist with the Strategy's review.
- A project brief for the Nyora Traffic Study has been completed.
- A review of the *Paths and Trails Strategy* has commenced and will include reassessing prioritisation criteria to ensure projects reflect community needs.
- Continued to support community planning groups through grant, emergency resilience and event enquiries.
- Council continues to collaborate with local Reconciliation Groups and Gippsland councils to exchange insights, build stronger networks, and benchmark Reconciliation Action Plans.

- Successful advocacy by the Live4Life partnership group secured funding from the Gardiner Foundation and Primary Health Network to support program delivery.
- Development of a new *Youth Strategy* continued with feedback gathered from Youth Council members, and students through visits to local secondary colleges.
- Outtrim, Foster and Dumbalk completed their community plans with support from Council.

### **Year to Date Financial Analysis**

The adjusted underlying result demonstrates Council's ability to generate a surplus in its ordinary course of business, excluding non-recurrent capital grants, non-monetary asset contributions and other contributions to fund capital works from its net result. The adjusted underlying result for 2025/26 is forecast to be a surplus of 1.82 per cent and is above the target of 0 per cent.

Council's proposed forecast Indebtedness Ratio as of 30 June 2026 is 22.39 per cent and is well within the ratio maximum of 40 per cent or lower.

Following the third quarter review, the Organisational Performance Report provides for a \$6 million transfer to financial reserves. This includes \$3 million allocated to the General Reserve to support emergency response needs and \$3 million allocated to the Asset Development Reserve. This is funded through reimbursement of previously incurred expenses to respond to emergency events.

Capital Works expenditure to 31 March 2026 of \$13.5 million is behind the forecast \$18.3 million. This is attributable to timing differences across several projects primarily due to contractor availability, material supply constraints, permitting processes and community consultation timelines.

### **CONSULTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Organisational Performance Report will be presented to Council's Audit and Risk Committee on 16 June 2026.

### **RESOURCES / FINANCIAL VIABILITY**

The 2025/26 Annual Actions are funded through the 2025/26 Annual Budget.

### **RISKS**

The Organisational Performance Report ensures the organisation remains within budget and mitigates the risk of annual actions not being monitored throughout the financial year. Inadequate monitoring of their progress may result in activities not within budget, not being achieved, or without understanding the reasons for any delay or budget constraints.

### **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. Organisational Performance Report - 1 July 2025 to 31 March 2026 [5.2.1 - 32 pages]

## **REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

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

Pillar 8. Monitoring & Performance Review

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

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

*Annual Budget*

*Council Plan 2022-2029*

### **Legislative Provisions**

*Local Government Act 2020*

*Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*

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

Nil

### 5.3. PROPOSED LEASE - LEWIS STREET PORT WELSHPOOL

Directorate:	Infrastructure Sustainability
Department:	Infrastructure Planning

#### Council Plan

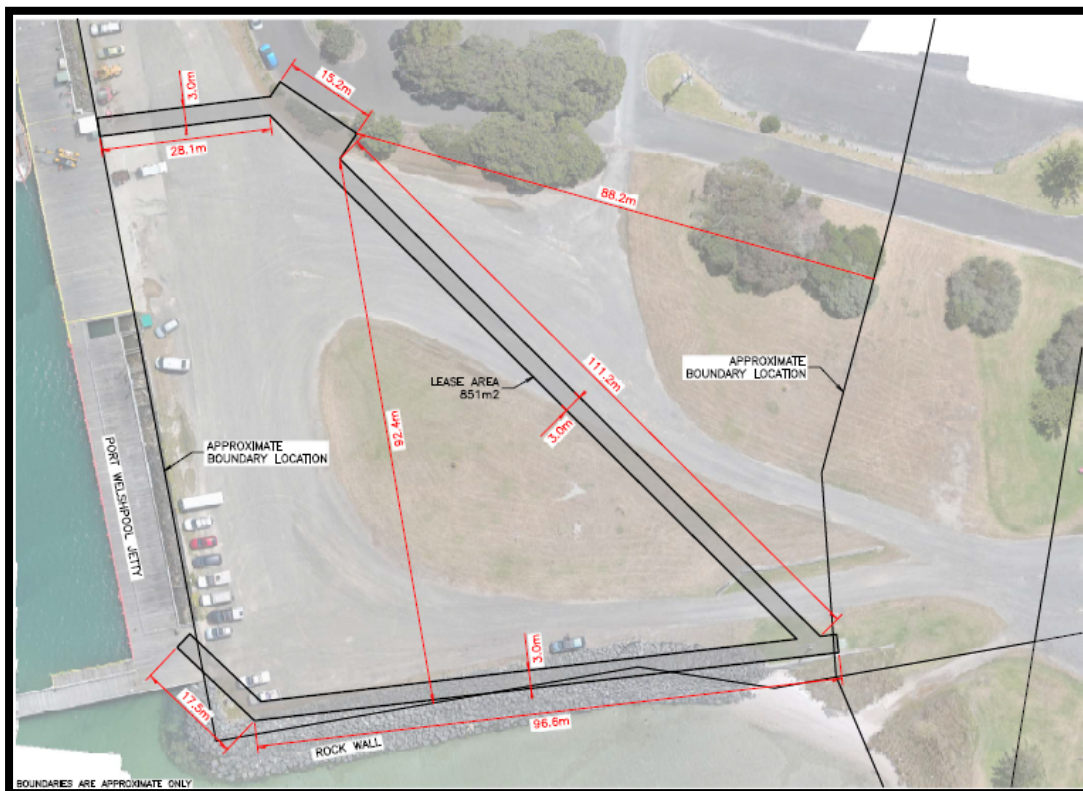
*Theme - Developing a Sustainable Future*

*Council ensures appropriate land management processes are undertaken.*

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is presented to Council to commence the statutory process to lease crown land that Council is the appointed committee of management for, to Evans Petroleum for the purposes of fuel lines and tank at part 80 Lewis Street Port Welshpool. See Figure 1.

Figure 1



## RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Commence the statutory process in accordance with section 115 of the Local Government Act 2020 to;**
  - a. **Lease and area of land 851m2 situated at 80 Lewis Street Port Welshpool (shown in Figure 1.) being part crown allotment 35G section B parish of Welshpool to Evans Petroleum Pty Ltd for 21 years with a rental of \$15,000 per annum plus GST with CPI annually and market reviews every five years for the purposes of fuel lines and tank.**
2. **Gives public notice on Council's website and in local newspapers in the edition commencing 25 May 2026 on the proposal (item 1a) inviting written submissions to be received by 5pm 24 June 2026;**
3. **Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to fix the time, date and place of a meeting to hear those persons who wish to be heard in support of their submissions;**
4. **Receives a further report to consider any submissions and determine the outcome at the next available Council meeting.**

## REPORT

Evans Petroleum Pty Ltd have a planning permit to retire the old fuel lines and tank and to install new fuel lines and tank on part 80 Lewis Street Port Welshpool. Endorsed plans are featured in **Attachment [5.1.1]**. The planning permit also contains a condition that Evans Petroleum Pty Ltd must enter into a lease with Council, as the appointed committee of management, over the crown land.

It is proposed that the lease will be a land lease only for 21 years in accordance with section 17D *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*. Council has sought approval in principle from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA).

A Valuer has determined the rental amount of \$15,000 per annum plus GST.

## CONSULTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

It is proposed to publish a notice in the local papers and on Council's website calling for submissions for 28 days in accordance with CE Policy 84 Community Engagement for Property Matters.

## RESOURCES / FINANCIAL VIABILITY

Council will receive the annual rental income.

## **RISKS**

Evans Petroleum Pty Ltd will own all infrastructure and have the responsibility for maintaining the infrastructure.

There is a requirement both in the planning permit and the standard conditions in the lease for Evans Petroleum to produce an environmental management plan for the site.

## **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. 202524 - Lewis Street Port Welshpool - Endorsed Plans [5.3.1 - 3 pages]

## **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*

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

Nil

## 5.4. DRAFT ACCESS & INCLUSION ACTION PLAN - COMMENCEMENT OF COMMUNITY FEEDBACK PROGRAM

Directorate:	Empowering Communities
Department:	Community, Customer and Visitor

### Council Plan

*Theme - Empowering Communities, Healthy, Connected and Inclusive*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present a draft South Gippsland Shire Council Access and Inclusion Action Plan 2026-2030 (the Plan), and request Council commence a community feedback program to support community input into the plan.

### RECOMMENDATION

#### That Council:

1. **Approve the commencement of a community feedback program for the Draft South Gippsland Shire Council Access and Inclusion Action Plan 2026-2030 (the Plan), from 25 May 2026 for a period of four weeks; and**
2. **Receive a report comprising community feedback and suggested changes to the plan at a future Council meeting.**

### REPORT

The draft South Gippsland Shire Council Access and Inclusion Action Plan (the Plan) (refer to **Attachment [5.4.1]**), aims to support the organisation to identify, reduce and prevent barriers that affect people's ability to participate fully in community life.

Also known as a Disability Action Plan (DAP), the plan aims to reduce barriers to services and employment, promote inclusion and work toward eliminating discriminatory attitudes. Public sector bodies and local governments are required to develop a Disability Action Plan under Section 38 of the *Victorian Disability Act 2006*.

This Plan is titled Access and Inclusion Action Plan to better recognise barriers may be experienced by people with disability, their families and carers, as well as others who encounter exclusion due to physical, social, cultural, economic or systemic factors.

## **CONSULTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Plan has been informed by people with lived experience perspectives and will guide Council's ongoing efforts to embed accessibility and inclusion across its operations and decision making between 2026 and 2030.

To inform the Access and Inclusion Action Plan, significant input was provided by Council's Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee. The plan was developed utilising the Council Plan and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan objectives as the framework. Further consultation was undertaken with all teams across the organisation.

## **RISKS**

There are risks to Council in not renewing an Access and Inclusion Action Plan (Disability Action Plan) which may include:

- A perception that people with access and inclusion barriers are not considered within organisation and civic decisions;
- A risk of disenfranchising members of the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee; and
- Potential noncompliance with the *Victorian Disability Act 2006*.

## **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. DRAFT Access and Inclusion Action Plan 2026 to 2030 [5.4.1 - 24 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](#).*

Community Strengthening Strategy

Children and Families Plan

Disability Action Plan

Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan

**Legislative Provisions**

*Disability Act 2006*

*Disability Discrimination Act 1992*

*Equal Opportunity Act 2020*

*Gender Equity Act 2020*

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

Nil

## 5.5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY AND STRATEGY

Directorate:	Strategy and Integrity
Department:	Regional Partnerships

### Council Plan

*Theme - Leading with Integrity*

*A review of Council's Community Engagement Policy and Community Engagement Strategy is an action outlined in the 2025-29 Council Plan.*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the *Community Engagement Policy (C06)* (**Attachment [5.5.1]**) and *Community Engagement Strategy* (**Attachment [5.5.2]**).

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council adopts the updated *Community Engagement Policy (C06)* and *Community Engagement Strategy*.**

### REPORT

The updated *Community Engagement Policy (C06)* and *Community Engagement Strategy* outline Council's approach to delivering meaningful engagement with the South Gippsland community.

These documents have been informed by feedback from the *Shaping South Gippsland* engagement undertaken in February 2025 and were further refined through a six-week community consultation period held from 16 October to 25 November 2025.

Under the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council is required to maintain a *Community Engagement Policy* that sets out how it will engage with its community. The Act establishes principles for deliberative and participatory engagement, ensuring participants have access to relevant information and a clear understanding of their role in Council's decision-making processes.

Council's current *Community Engagement Policy (C06)* was adopted in 2021.

The documents propose a stronger focus on "closing the loop" by providing clear feedback to the community following engagement activities, as well as improvements to how engagement is evaluated. Actions outlined in the *Community Engagement Strategy* will be progressively delivered over the life of the document.

Reviewing the Policy and Strategy is an action in the *2025-2029 Council Plan*.

### **CONSULTATION / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The draft *Community Engagement Policy (C06)* and *Community Engagement Strategy* were open for feedback from 16 October to 21 November 2025 via Council's *Your Say* platform along with a range of in-person activities. Three pieces of feedback were received and minor wording changes were implemented as a result of that feedback. The documents were also subject to internal consultation and presented to the Audit and Risk Committee for feedback.

### **RESOURCES / FINANCIAL VIABILITY**

Council will use existing resources to undertake the actions outlined in the *Community Engagement Strategy*.

### **RISKS**

Good decision making relies on effective community engagement. Council will continue to support new opportunities and approaches to engage with the community.

### **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**

1. Community Engagement Policy C06 [5.5.1 - 5 pages]
2. Community Engagement Strategy - May 2026 [5.5.2 - 12 pages]

### **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 2020*

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

Nil

## 5.6. INSTRUMENT OF APPOINTMENT - S11A PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987 - HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES

Directorate:	Strategy and Integrity
Department:	Governance and Integrity

### Council Plan

*Objective - Leading with Integrity*

*Council's governance is strengthened by maintaining currency in the authorisations 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, David Simon, Head of Planning Services, 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 Authorisation (Attachment 5.6.1) be appointed and authorised as set out in the instrument and detailed in this report; and**
- 2. The Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation comes 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.

- **David Simon** – Head of Planning Services

The Instrument is contained in (**Attachment [5.6.1]**)

#### **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 Planning and Environment Act 1987 - Head of Planning Services - 20 May 2026 [5.6.1 - 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

## 5.7. INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION - S6 COUNCIL TO MEMBERS OF STAFF - MAY 2026 - PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES UPDATES

Directorate:	Strategy and Integrity
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 [5.7.1]**) under the *Planning and Environment Act 2017*, due to a realignment of positions in the Planning and Building Services and Culture and Capability Departments.

### 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 [5.7.1]):**

- 1. Members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the officers or positions referred to in (Attachment [5.7.1]) 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 [5.7.1]), to come into force immediately upon signing;**
- 3. Upon this Instrument of Delegation (Attachment [5.7.1]) 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 [5.7.1] 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 S6 Instrument of Delegation - Council to Members of Staff – May 2026 (**Attachment [5.7.1]**) has been reviewed and updated to reflect revised Council officer position titles in line with the organisational changes in the Planning and Building Services and Culture and Capability Departments.

It is a requirement under the Act that Council endorse the updated S6 Instrument of Delegation - Council to Members of Staff (**Attachment [5.7.1]**) by resolution of Council.

The current version of the Instrument of Delegation has been in place since 18 March 2026 and will be revoked as per Part 3 of the above recommendation.

## **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. Instrument of Delegation - S6 Council to Members of Staff - Planning and Building Services Updates - 20 May 2026 [**5.7.1** - 307 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

## 5.8. SUMMARY OF STRATEGIC BRIEFINGS - 1 MARCH 2026 - 31 MARCH 2026

Directorate:	Strategy and Integrity
Department:	Governance and Integrity

### Council Plan

*Theme - 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 to Council is to provide a summary of the information presented to Councillors between 1 March 2026 and 31 March 2026.

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

The reporting period has been adjusted to report by calendar month. The first two weeks of March were previously reported and have been included again to ensure this report covers the full calendar month of March.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council receives and notes this report, the Summary of Strategic Briefings - 1 March 2026 - 31 March 2026.**

### REPORT

Meeting Title	Details
<b>Wednesday 4 March 2026</b>	
<b>Planning – Monthly Briefing</b>	<p><b>Councillor Attending</b> John Schelling, Sarah Gilligan, Brad Snell, Bron Beach, Nathan Hersey, John Kennedy, Steve Finlay and Scott Rae</p> <p><b>Apology:</b> Clare Williams <b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nil</p>
<b>Integrated Planning – 2026/27 Budget and</b>	<b>Councillor Attending</b>

<p><b>Council Plan Actions Workshop 3</b></p>	<p>John Schelling, Sarah Gilligan, Brad Snell, Clare Williams, Bron Beach, Nathan Hersey, John Kennedy, Steve Finlay and Scott Rae</p> <p><b>Apology:</b> Nil  <b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nil</p>
<p><b>Connect with Councillors Community Session</b></p>	<p><b>Councillor Attending</b>  Sarah Gilligan, Brad Snell, Clare Williams, Bron Beach, Nathan Hersey, John Kennedy, Steve Finlay and Scott Rae</p> <p><b>Apology:</b> John Schelling  <b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nil</p>
<p><b>Expression of Interest to Present to Council</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>{ Friends of Agnes Falls</li> <li>{ Gippsland Agroforestry</li> <li>{ Eat, Drink, Play Event Presentation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Councillor Attending</b>  Brad Snell, Bron Beach, Nathan Hersey, John Kennedy, Steve Finlay and Scott Rae</p> <p>Claire Williams attended Eat, Drink, Play Event Presentation Only Virtually</p> <p><b>Apology:</b> John Schelling, Sarah Gilligan, Clare Williams  <b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nil</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 11 March 2026</b></p>	
<p><b>Integrated Planning – 2026/27 Budget and Council Plan Actions Workshop 4</b></p>	<p><b>Councillor Attending</b>  Sarah Gilligan, Clare Williams, Brad Snell, Bron Beach, Nathan Hersey, John Kennedy and Scott Rae</p> <p><b>Apology:</b> John Schelling, Steve Finlay  <b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nil</p>
<p><b>Planning Scheme Amendments Workshop</b></p>	<p><b>Councillor Attending</b>  John Schelling, Sarah Gilligan, Clare Williams, Brad Snell, Bron Beach, John Kennedy and Scott Rae</p> <p><b>Apology:</b> Steve Finlay and Nathan Hersey</p>

	<p><b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nathan Hersey</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 18 March 2026</b></p>	
<p><b>Integrated Planning - 2026/27 Budget and Council Plan Actions – Workshop 5</b></p>	<p><b>Councillor Attending</b> John Schelling, Sarah Gilligan, Brad Snell, Clare Williams, Bron Beach, Nathan Hersey, John Kennedy and Scott Rae</p> <p><b>Apology:</b> Steve Finlay <b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nil</p>
<p><b>Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Chair Report – June 2025 to December 2025</b></p>	<p><b>Councillor Attending</b> John Schelling, Sarah Gilligan, Brad Snell, Clare Williams, Bron Beach, Nathan Hersey, John Kennedy and Scott Rae</p> <p><b>Apology:</b> Steve Finlay <b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nil</p>
<p><b>Kerbside Service Transition – Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO)</b></p>	<p><b>Councillor Attending</b> John Schelling, Sarah Gilligan, Brad Snell, Clare Williams, Bron Beach, Nathan Hersey, John Kennedy and Scott Rae</p> <p><b>Apology:</b> Steve Finlay <b>Conflict of Interest:</b> Nil</p>

**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*

## 5.9. DOCUMENTS SEALED, CONTRACTS VARIED, AWARDED OR EXTENDED BY CEO - 1 MARCH - 31 MARCH 2026

Directorate:	Strategy and Integrity
Department:	Financial Strategy

### Council Plan

*Theme - 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

The purpose of this report to Council is to document the following actions undertaken by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) which occurred during the period 1 March 2026 - 31 March 2026. Council's *Procurement Policy (C32)*, *General Local Law 2024* and *Planning and Environment Act 1987* requires the CEO to report to Council any of the following actions undertaken to the next appropriate Meeting:

- Documents sealed;
- Contracts awarded by Council after a public tender process;
- Contracts awarded after a public tender process within the CEO's delegation; and
- Contract variations approved by the CEO above contingency.

The reporting period has been adjusted to report by calendar month. The first two weeks of March were previously reported and have been included again to ensure this report covers the full calendar month of March.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council receives and notes this report Documents Sealed, Contracts Varied, Awarded or Extended by CEO – 1 March 2026 – 31 March 2026 those being:**

#### 1. Documents Sealed:

- a. **Section 173 Agreement between South Gippsland Shire Council and the owner of 61 to 63 Whitelaw Street, Meeniyah for a four-lot subdivision. Seal applied 5 March 2026.**

- b. Deed of Amendment to Section 173 Agreement between South Gippsland Shire Council and the owner of 66 and 80 Bena Road, Korumburra for subdivision of land. Seal applied 5 March 2026**

**2. Contracts awarded by Council after a public tender process:**

- a. Nil

**3. Contracts awarded after a public tender process within the CEO's delegation:**

- a. Nil

**4. Contract variations approved by the CEO above contingency:**

- a. Nil

**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 1 March 2026 - 31 March 2026.

**Documents Sealed**

**1. Documents Sealed under *General Local Law 2024***

- a. Nil.

Section 173 Agreements are prepared in accordance with s.173 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, allowing Council to enter into agreements relating to the use or development of land, conditions to which the land be used or developed or any matter that relates to planning or planning schemes in Victoria. Section 174 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* requires that such an agreement be under seal and must bind the owner to the covenants specified in the agreement.

In accordance with the Instrument of Delegation and *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, the following are presented to Council as documents sealed during the period from 1 March 2026 – 31 March 2026.

2. Documents Sealed under *Planning and Environment Act 1987*
  - a. Section 173 Agreement between South Gippsland Shire Council and the owner of 61 to 63 Whitelaw Street, Meeniyah for a four-lot subdivision. Seal applied 5 March 2026.
  - b. Deed of Amendment to Section 173 Agreement between South Gippsland Shire Council and the owner of 66 and 80 Bena Road, Korumburra for subdivision of land. Seal applied 5 March 2026.

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

In accordance with Council's Procurement Policy, where contracts are awarded after public tender, they are to be reported publicly. Where contracts above the CEO's delegation are varied or extended, they are required to be reported to the next practicable Council Meeting.

3. Contracts awarded by Council after a public tender process:
  - a. Nil.
4. Contracts awarded after a public tender process within the CEO's delegation:
  - a. Nil
5. Contract variations approved by the CEO above contingency:
  - 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.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

### **REFERENCE DOCUMENTS**

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

Pillar 3. Decision Making

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

*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*

**6. COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

**6.1. COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Nil

**6.2. REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**6.3. COUNCILLOR UPDATES**

## 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 - s.181 Prejudicial Matter Sale of Property to Recover Unpaid Rates, 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; and**
  - b. **The grounds for designation have been made to protect the privacy of an individual's personal information.**

## **8. MEETING CLOSED**

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next Council Meeting open to the public will be held on Wednesday, 17 June 2026 commencing at 2:00pm in the Council Chambers, Leongatha.