

## Coal Creek Engagement - Update

Engagement to inform a new Strategic Plan for Coal Creek Community Park and Museum recently concluded with 457 people providing feedback.

The need for a new Strategic Plan was identified in Council's Arts, Culture and Creative Industries Strategy to help pave a clear and realistic direction for the future of Coal Creek. As part of the engagement a Discussion Paper was developed, which presented three options: revitalisation of the current facility, a new direction or ceasing current operations.

Feedback was collected via an online survey (322 responses), written submission (26 responses) and an in-person survey (109 responses) collected during pop up events held in Korumburra, Leongatha, Foster and Tarwin Lower.

In addition to this, a Coal Creek Community Assembly was established to provide a recommendation to Council based on detailed information, a site visit and the collated community feedback. To establish the Assembly 5,000 invitations were randomly sent to households across South Gippsland and from this a representative sample of 25 participants were selected based on geographic location, gender and age.

The Assembly met in-person over two full days, to determine their thoughts on the future of Coal Creek. Their collective decision has been provided back to Council and will inform future discussions with Councillors as the Plan is progressed.

### **Quote attributable to Kerryn Ellis, Chief Executive Officer of South Gippsland Shire Council**

*"I would like to thank everyone who took the time to provide feedback during the consultation period, and the members of the Coal Creek Assembly who dedicated two whole days to learn about Coal Creek and to discuss its opportunities and challenges."*

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