

Shaping South Gippsland Engagement Summary

South Gippsland Shire Council's '*Shaping South Gippsland*' community engagement has concluded with 688 people providing feedback.

The consultation provided an opportunity for the South Gippsland community to contribute suggestions on the development of a new *2025 - 2029 Council Plan* and on the existing *2040 South Gippsland Community Vision*.

From late January until the end of February, 22 engagement events were held including Councillor 'pop-ups', community and stakeholder events, and a deliberative engagement. Through this campaign 17 townships were visited and over 1,100 suggestions for the Council Plan were provided.

The most strongly supported priority in the Community Vision was 'A Healthy Connected and Engaged Community' with 92 per cent of community members supporting healthy lifestyles opportunities, social supports and health prevention initiatives. Community feedback identified the lack of availability to a range of key health services as a concern.

Some of the key themes identified within the Council Plan were focused on, but not limited to:

- Roads, including road safety, quality and maintenance.
- Weeds, from increased weed control on Council roads, to additional education.
- Advocacy, seeking Council's public support on a wide range of requests including volunteer support, public transport and more reliable electricity.

Councillors will now consider the feedback as they work on creating the new *2024-2029 Council Plan*. Once complete, the draft plan will be released for further community engagement.

Quote attributable to South Gippsland Shire Council Mayor, John Schelling:

"I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our fantastic community for taking the time to have a say and contribute to the development of the next Council Plan. It was fabulous to see so many people turn up and be heard. Your input provides valuable insights that will guide our decision making as we work to shape the future of South Gippsland."

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