



SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

COVID-19 Community Support Package

Council is proposing a \$2M COVID-19 Community Support Package for South Gippsland.

The package aims to provide support for our community and stimulus for our local economy both during and after the COVID-19 event.

The package will be delivered by a dedicated project management team in consultation with key stakeholder groups including the Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMPC) and the Business Emergency Leadership Group (BELG) to ensure the actions are best placed to deliver real outcomes for South Gippsland.

The initiatives listed here will evolve as the impacts of the pandemic are determined. They will provide support in three core areas: health, connection and innovation and address the needs of residents, businesses and the local community.



PACKAGE INCLUSIONS

Residents

- Introduction of a COVID-19 Pandemic Hardship Policy to support residents having trouble making rates payments
- A subsidised flu vaccine program
- Delivery of mental health support programs for residents

Business

- Deferral of rates on an interest-free basis to impacted businesses
- Waiving of some business permit fees
- The establishment of business support programs including a dedicated business grants program
- Sustaining and increasing local procurement where possible and implementing rapid payment for contractors and suppliers

Community

- Prioritising infrastructure programs
- Expansion of Community Grants (more grants awarded with broadened criteria)
- Development of a community outreach program in partnership with key agencies to provide community support