



Rating Strategy Steering Committee

INFORMATION KIT

WHAT WILL THE STEERING COMMITTEE DO?

The group will review Council's current rating strategy and suggest ways to improve it.

It will be an advisory group which will assist in developing a new rating strategy for consideration and adoption in 2018/19. Anyone interest in joining the group should read the full terms of reference (see Attachment 1). However, in summary, the role of group members will be:

- Identify and recommend to Council the principles that Council should consider when striking general rates, particularly with regard to the creation and maintenance of any differential rates;
- Make recommendations to Council regarding the equitable sharing of the rates burden between various categories of ratepayers – e.g. Residential, Rural, Commercial and Industrial;
- Recommend to Council any changes to the structure of current charges and their relationship to general rates, e.g. Municipal Charges;

The group will not be asked to consider or have input upon:

- The amount of total rates and charges revenue to be collected;
- Identifying any other special rates, charges or levies it believes the Council should consider.
- Waste service charges cost reflectivity
- Special Charge Scheme Policy, Unpaid rates Policy, Rates & Charges Hardship Policy and payment options for rates and charges.
- Strategies and policies of the Council in general, except to the extent they relate directly to rating strategies;
- Cost effectiveness and efficiency of providing Council services;
- The merit or otherwise of the range of services and facilities provided by the Council; and
- The Council's Capital Works Program.

How will the Steering Committee be appointed?

Council will review the applications based on the experience and skills the applicants will bring to the group.

The successful applicants will then be contacted by telephone.

Who will be in the Steering Committee?

The Steering Committee shall comprise of members appointed by resolution of Council as follows:

- No more than three Councillors
- Target to have at least twice the number of community members as Councillor members (but no more than nine):-
representing a cross section of ratepayer categories including: Residential, Farm/rural, Commercial and Industrial, along with groups such as the Victorian Farmers Federation, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, not-for-profit organisations, tourism association and environmental groups.
- An independent non-voting chairperson to facilitate the Steering Committee meetings.

Council staff will also attend to provide technical input and administrative support. The Chief Executive Officer will determine the staff required to support the group which may vary from time to time.

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All persons nominated to serve on the Steering Committee shall be subject to the initial and continued approval of Council. All Steering Committee members will remain in office until completion of the review or 30 June 2018, whichever is the earlier.

Applicants must live in, or be ratepayers of, the South Gippsland municipality.

How can I apply?

At the Ordinary Council meeting held on 23 August 2017, Council approved a process for the review of Council's Rating Strategy. Following the Council meeting, advertising was conducted for a four week period seeking nominations from the community to participate in the review by joining the Steering Committee.

The closing date for applications is 29 September 2017.

To nominate to participate in the review, please fill in the application form following and ensure that it is received at the Council offices, marked "South Gippsland Council Rating Strategy Steering Committee", by 5pm, Friday 29 September 2017. To obtain more information, please contact Faith Page, Director Corporate & Community Services on 5662 9810. Nomination forms can also be emailed to: council@southgippsland.vic.gov.au.

NOMINATION FORM

1. Please provide your name, mailing address and contact details below.

Name			
Mailing Address			
Contact Telephone Number	BH:	AH:	Mob:
Email (if available)			

2. What interest group would you be representing?

<input type="checkbox"/> Farming	<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed Income Retiree
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Rural Residential Category
<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Chamber of Commerce
<input type="checkbox"/> Residential	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant Land
<input type="checkbox"/> Welfare organisation	Name of organisation: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Tourism association	Name of organisation: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental group	Name of group: _____

3. Please outline below any skills and experience that you could contribute to the Rating Strategy Steering Committee.

4. Please outline what has prompted you to apply for a position on the Rating Strategy Steering Committee.

Please return to the South Gippsland Shire Council marked "Rating Strategy Steering Committee"
 In person: 9 Smith Street Leongatha
 By mail: Private Bag 4 Leongatha Vic 3953
 By email: council@southgippsland.vic.gov.au
 By 29 September 2017