

# Message from the Administrator



What a promising week we have had following the announcement from the Victorian Government that Mr Christian Zahra AM and Mr Rick Brown will join me as South Gippsland Shire Council's Administrators until the elections in October 2021.

I am proud to have the opportunity to continue my work with the community as an Administrator and as nominated Chairperson alongside two reputable individuals. Administrators Brown and Zahra both bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the table and I am sure South Gippsland will only benefit from their diversity of skills.

Administrator Brown has been a consultant providing policy and strategic advice for the past ten years and previously was a member of the RMIT Council and Director of the university's commercial company. He was an adviser to Russell Savage MP and to Howard government ministers Nick Minchin and Kevin Andrews.

Administrator Zahra has past experience as Member for the Federal seat of McMillan (now Monash) and knows the region well. He was also the Parliamentary Secretary to the Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development and last year was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

All Administrators have been hard at work already, with part one of the July Council meeting complete amidst the swearing-in ceremony, inductions and briefings. Part two of the July Meeting will take place at Council Chambers next Wednesday from 11.00am. It will be open to the public and we will be deciding on the Budget, Council Plan and Rating Strategy. In addition to all of that we are working with Council staff to get up to speed on the most important and pressing issues in the region and planning how we will consult with the community in the near future.

At present there is an intense workload to bring together a number of significant projects and prepare our advocacy plans. This is our chance to determine where our priorities are for the next twelve months and to chase funding opportunities as they become available.

For those who may not have met me or the other Administrators yet, rest assured that we will be making an effort to be active in the community. We genuinely want to hear from the people of South Gippsland and learn more about local challenges and areas for improvement. We are certainly looking forward to the opportunity.

**Julie Eisenbise**  
**Administrator**