



# Councillor Briefing Notes

**Tuesday 25 November 2025 at 9.00 am**

**273 Main Street, Bairnsdale 3875**

## Attendance

### Mayor

Cr Jodie Ashworth

### Deputy Mayor

Cr Tom Crook

### Councillors

Cr Arthur Allen

Cr Sonia Buckley (Online)

Cr Barry Davis (Online)

Cr Joanne Eastman

Cr Bernie Farquhar

Cr Ian Trevaskis

Cr John White

### Council Officers

Fiona Weigall

Stuart McConnell

Sarah Johnston

Chief Executive Officer

General Manager Assets and Environment

General Manager Business Excellence

## Apologies

Chris Stephenson General Manager Place and Community

## Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Nil

## Councillors Only Time

### Councillor Briefing Session

#### External Presentation

##### 1.1 Councillor Professional Development: Effective Communication

Councillors received a presentation and overview on effective communication strategies included guidance on engaging with the media and using social media responsibly. This session is part of the 2025 Mandatory Annual Professional Development Training for Councillors.

##### Attendance

Cr Barry Davis (online) left the meeting at 10.28 am.

##### 1.2 Councillor Professional Development: Representing the Needs of the Community

##### Attendance

Cr Sonia Buckley attended in person at the Council Chambers at 12.30 pm.

Councillors received a presentation and overview of their obligations in representing the diversity, interests and needs of the community. This session is part of the 2025 Mandatory Annual Professional Development Training for Councillors.

#### Reports to Future Council Meeting

##### Attendance

Cr Barry Davis returned to the meeting online at 12.27 pm.

##### 2.1 Open Space Strategy (Council report for Consideration at December Council Meeting)

Councillors were briefed on the draft East Gippsland Shire Council Open Space Strategy 2025-2035. Councillors noted the draft Council report, which will be submitted to the **16 December 2025** Council Meeting for consideration.

## Meeting Close

**Meeting closed at:** 3.47 pm

**Approved by:** Fiona Weigall Chief Executive Officer