District Council of Grant

COMMUNITY NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2024

Elector Representation Review

A review was undertaken recently, in line with the *Local Government Act 1999*, to determine if a change to Council's current ward structure and Elected Member composition would better serve the community and ensure all communities (large and small) are fairly and adequately represented.

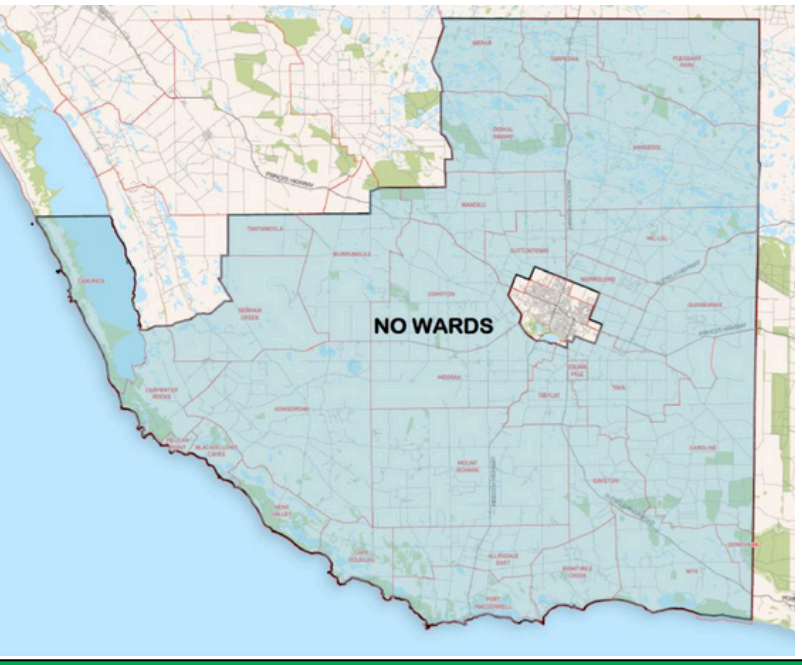
The District Council of Grant currently comprises a total of ten Elected Members; one Mayor and nine Ward Councillors. One Councillor represents the Tarpeena Ward, one Councillor represents the Port MacDonnell Ward and seven Councillors represent the Central Ward.

After considering a number of potential ward structure options, Council is proposing a no ward / one Council area structure comprising ten Elected Members; one Mayor and nine Area Councillors.

Community members are now invited to have their say on the proposed future ward structure and composition.

Based on community feedback, a recommendation will be presented at the November 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting to either endorse the proposed no ward structure and associated composition or adjust the ward structure and composition for a secondary consultation.

More information about the review process and how to have your say can be found on pages 8 and 17.



Council Decisions

Advocate and collaborate for appropriate public toilets at the Little Blue Lake

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on Monday 16 September 2024, it was resolved to advocate and collaborate with the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) in relation to progressing a proposal for appropriate public toilet facilities at the Little Blue Lake.

Council staff will write directly to DEW to request the urgent establishment of toilet facilities and to request advocacy from Mr Troy Bell MP, Minister Clare Scriven, Susan Close MP Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, and the Hon. Ben Hood MLC within 30 days.

Next Council Meeting: 5:30pm Monday 21 October 2024 in the Council Chambers at 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier.

Visit Council's website at www.dcgrant.sa.gov.au for full Council meeting reports and minutes.

Flashback



September 2019



Mount Gambier Regional Airport heavy apron opening

Out & About with Council

Academic Awards, Governor General Visit & Church Service

School Academic Awards

The District Council of Grant annually gift $750.00 towards Academic Scholarship Awards for Year 10 to 12 students who reside within the Council area.

Mayor Kylie Boston is pictured with Tenison Woods College winner Aleisha.



District Council of Grant Mayor Kylie Boston said Council is pleased to be able to support the community's next generation each year who are committed to progressing their education.

"Council is proud to be able to support our local young achievers. Education is so important for the growth of our young people and these scholarships provide a great opportunity for students to further develop their skills, within their field of choice, which in turn benefits our community in a variety of ways,"

"I would like to extend a huge congratulations to all the 2024 scholarship recipients and wish them the best on their future education journey."

Grant High School Principal Caroline Davey added "Not only does the District Council of Grant Scholarship Award assist with the financial support needed to pursue educational goals, it also inspires and recognises academic excellence, motivating students to strive for continued success,"

"The Council's commitment to supporting youth in our community plays an important role in fostering our students' growth and assisting us in building future ready citizens."

Peace Church Service

On Saturday 21 September 2024, Mayor Kylie Boston attended the Christ Church Anglican Church's peace service.

Approximately 150 people of all faiths and backgrounds attended offering prays for peace in the world. The afternoon also included a Sri Lankan performance by children and a hymn led by Salvation Army Paster Tim Frost.



Governor General Visit

Also on Saturday 21 September 2024, Her Excellency the Honourable Sam Mostyn AC, Governor-General of Australia visited Mount Gambier, flying into the area from at the Mount Gambier Regional Airport earlier that morning.

Mayor Kylie Boston is pictured with Her Excellency the Honourable Sam Mostyn AC, Governor-General of Australia at a lunch where she met various community stakeholders.



Exploring the districts local businesses and natural wonders through bus tour partnership

The District Council of Grant and Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce partnered to showcase the district's small businesses and unique natural attractions to over 1,000 interstate visitors.



In August 2024, Council agreed to donate $10,000 towards the Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce's bookable bus tours initiative which provide an opportunity for Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia members to experience the best of the district during their upcoming National Rally in Mount Gambier.

An additional $5,000 seed funding was also committed next financial year to assist the Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce establish a tourism sub-committee.

District Council of Grant Mayor Kylie Boston said she was excited to welcome the Club members to experience the District Council of Grant's vibrant coast, relaxed rural lifestyle and quality services.

"Council commends the work that the Chamber of Commerce are doing to boost our district's tourism and local economy. These tours are a great way to attract visitors to tourism and hospitality businesses in our area, and I am proud to showcase what our community has to offer," Mayor Boston said.

"Council looks forward to continue working alongside the Chamber of Commerce to develop future experiences and tour programs in conjunction with other significant events within our district."

The tours coincided with the 8-day Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia's 37th National Rally based at the Mount Gambier Showgrounds from Sunday 22 September 2024.

Club members had a selection of four guided coach tours to participate in during their visit which include:

- a day exploring Port MacDonnell;
- scenic tour discovering the district's unique landscape;
- a tasting experience featuring local honey, produce, win and gin from local businesses at country pubs; and
- exploring popular lakes, sinkholes and volcanoes up close in an active walking tour.

Fourteen businesses situated in or servicing the District Council of Grant shared economic benefits from the bus tours initiative, while four of Council's most famous natural assets were at the centre of tours including Mount Schank, Piccaninnie Ponds, Little Blue Lake and Hells Hole.

Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce President Candice Fennell said the organisation acts as a unified voice for the region's business community and works passionately to advocate for initiatives that support local businesses.

"The guided bus tours initiative is one of the opportunities that the Chamber of Commerce has been able to create which we see as vital in championing the local community," Mrs Fennell said.

"By securing this funding from the District Council of Grant, we can further promote our region's unique offerings and ensure that our businesses and local attractions continue to thrive. We look forward to continuing collaborative work with the District Council of Grant to create a bright business-friendly landscape."



Works around the District

Barbeques at Port MacDonnell & Blackfellows Caves

New barbeques have been installed at Tenterden Reserve in Port MacDonnell and Unger Recreation Reserve in Blackfellows Caves.

Both barbeques are wheelchair friendly.

Port MacDonnell



Blackfellows Caves



Road Construction Program

As reported at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 16 September 2024 and as part of the 2024-2025 Road Construction Program, Concannon Road and Earls Caves Road have been ripped and relayed, and Kieselback Road has been re-sheeted.

Grading is currently being carried out across the district.



Mount Gambier Regional Airport Update

Airport Art Gallery Activated

The reimagining of an unused space at the Mount Gambier Regional Airport has led to the planning for a new District Council of Grant art gallery in November 2024.

Council staff met earlier this year to investigate gallery opportunities which identified that the expansive walls, together with newly added lighting and extended picture railing makes the Airport terminal space ideal for showcasing artworks.

Mount Gambier Regional Airport Manager Nick Serle said "One of the points raised in community discussions about the new Mount Gambier Regional Airport was how we can make better use of our great Airport terminal, and in particular the area that was originally built for security screenings but has not yet been utilised,"

"Shortly we can look forward to seeing that area used to display local artworks with Council having endorsed the use of the space and its temporary name - The Hangar Gallery. The gallery will give a fantastic opportunity for passengers, their families and friends to do something extra while at the terminal. It will also allow people who are coming out to the Airport for plane spotting or simply filling in time to wander through the facility and have a look at the artworks,"

"This is all part of activating the whole Mount Gambier Regional Airport, and particularly the terminal building."



Port MacDonnell Community Complex Update

Be Connected, National Rally Visitors & Mental Health Month

Be Connected - every Australian online

Multiple 'Be Connected - Every Australian online' sessions were held at the Community Complex funded by the Australian Government.

These sessions were aimed at increasing the confidence, skills and online safety of older Australians when using the internet and everyday technology.

All sessions were very successful with participants sharing their own experiences dealing with scams, as well as identifying strategies to keep safe from scammers.



Campervan & Motorhome Club of Australia Visit

28 people attending the Campervan & Motorhome Club of Australia's National Rally based in Mount Gambier visited the Community Complex to view The Gallery and Maritime Museum. The group also enjoyed lunch in the Community Complex's Youth Area.

Prior to visiting the Community Complex, the group started their morning by visiting the Enchanted Forrest and Drowned Forrest presented by their tour guide Uncle Ken Jones.





Mental Health Month

In recognition of Mental Health Month in October 2024, the Port MacDonnell Community Complex will be hosting various activities promoting healthy ways to relieve stress and relax.



Mindfulness Colouring
Spring themed colouring will be available for those visiting the Community Complex in a dedicated 'Zen' space.



Introduction to Tai Chi
On Thursday 17 October 2024 at 9:30am, everyone is welcome to come and try the peaceful art of Tai Chi.

Bookings are required for this activity. Please call the Community Complex on (08) 8738 3000.



Community Jigsaw
Community members are will also be able to enjoy adding a few pieces to our community jigsaw which will be available for everyone.



Mount Gambier & District Saleyards Update

Saleyards Transformation Project & Sheep eID

Growing Regions Program Application Update

As reported at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 16 September 2024, notification has been received confirming that the South Australian Government has reaffirmed the $2.7 million funding commitment for the Saleyards Transformation Project, subject to Council securing matching Commonwealth funding. With Council and State funding secured, Council's focus is on attracting matching commonwealth funding via competitive grants.

Round 2 of the Growing Regions Program opened on Thursday 5 September 2024 with an application deadline of 5:00pm AEDT Thursday 10 October 2024.

At the Council Meeting, it was approved to lodge a grant submission in Round 2 of the Commonwealth Growing Regions Program, to deliver the upgrade and transformation of the Mount Gambier and Districts Saleyards.

More information about the decision can be found in the Meeting Agenda on Council's website at www.dcgrant.sa.gov.au/council/meetings.



Sheep eID Meeting

Recently, representatives from the Mount Gambier & District Saleyards, Naracoorte Regional Livestock Exchange NRLE and Dublin Saleyards met with key Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) staff to continue progressing the sheep eID upgrade project.

PIRSA Chief Executive Professor Mehdi Doroudi also met with Mount Gambier & District Saleyards representatives onsite to better understand the operational requirements of the facility.



Store Sales

A reminder that there are four Store Sales remaining for 2024 at the Saleyards:

- Friday 11 October 2024 at 10:00am
- Friday 8 November 2024 at 10:00am
- Friday 13 December 2024 at 10:00am



Local Heritage Survey Stage 1 Consultation

Draft Thematic Heritage Framework Study

Do the proposed historic themes accurately capture our district's social, environmental and economic history?

The District Council of Grant are undertaking a multi-staged Local Heritage Survey Project to identify structures and places of historical significance within the district. The Project builds on work from previous Local Heritage Survey (Heritage of the South East) conducted in 1984 by former Councils District Council of Mount Gambier and District Council of Port MacDonnell.

As part of Stage 1 of the Local Heritage Survey Project, a Draft Thematic Heritage Framework Study has been created which tells a succinct story of the district's development history from early Western settlement through to the present day.

The final document will be used to inform how Local Heritage places in the District Council of Grant are categorised and listed in future stages of the Project.



What is proposed?

The Draft Thematic Heritage Framework Study proposes four key themes to reflect significant periods in the district's historic timeline in consideration of South Australian and National historic theme frameworks:

- **Theme 1:** Foundation and Consolidation (1836-1885)
- **Theme 2:** Depression, Prosperity and Development (1885-1914)
- **Theme 3:** War and Industrialisation (1914-1945)
- **Theme 4:** The Modern Era and Beyond (1945<)

Each theme also details several sub-themes which more specifically encapsulate local historic activities. These sub-themes include, but are not limited to:

- Social Life and Organisations;
- Primary Production;
- Local Government;
- Work, Secondary Production and Service Industries;
- Transport and Communications; and
- Land, Settlement and Housing.

It should be noted that throughout the Draft Thematic Heritage Framework Study, there is limited narration of the history of the Boandik People's pre-colonial occupation of the land – recognising that the Boandik heritage and stories, are to be shared by Boandik People with their own voices.

Get involved

Council is now asking the community if the themes identified in the Draft Thematic Heritage Framework Study accurately capture our district's social, environmental and economic history.

Provide your feedback on the proposed key themes and sub-themes by:

- Completing the online feedback form on Your Say DCG (scan the QR code below)
- Emailing feedback to info@dcgrant.sa.gov.au
- Submitting a hard copy feedback form or letter to:
  - Principal Office: 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier
  - Port MacDonnell Community Complex: 5-7 Charles Street, Port MacDonnell
  - Post: PO Box 724, Mount Gambier SA 5290

Hard copy information is also available at Council's Principal Office and Port MacDonnell Community Complex.

Feedback on Stage 1 will be accepted in writing until 5:00pm Wednesday 16 October 2024.

Elector Representation Review Consultation

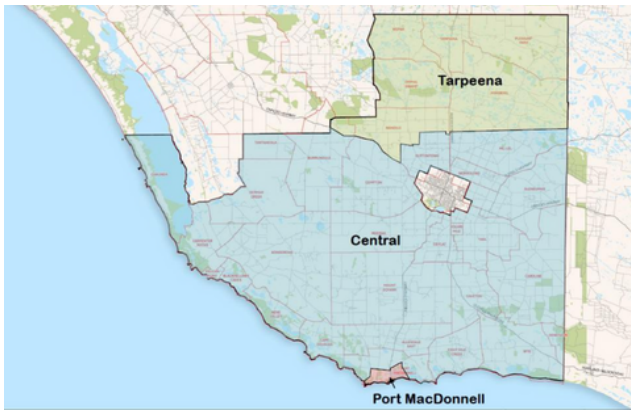
Proposed no ward / on Council area structure

Have your say on Council's future ward structure and Elected Member composition.

The *Local Government Act 1999* (the Act) indicates that Council must undertake a 'representation review' to determine whether its community would benefit from an alteration to its composition or ward structure. This generally occurs every eight years as set by the Minister. The District Council of Grant is required to undertake and complete this representation review between April 2024 and April 2025.

The District Council of Grant currently comprises a total of ten Elected Members; one Mayor and nine Ward Councillors. One Councillor represents the Tarpeena Ward, one Councillor represents the Port MacDonnell Ward and seven Councillors represent the Central Ward.

This composition has been in effect since 1999/2000.

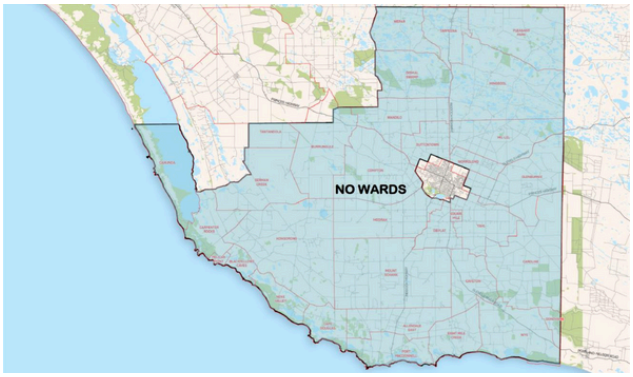


The below table shows the current distribution of electors between the existing wards:

Ward	Councillors	Electors	Elector Ratio	% Variance
Central	7	4,563	1:651	+1.24
Tarpeena	1	628	1:628	-2.33
Port MacDonnell	1	597	1:597	-7.15
Total	**9**	**5,788**		
Average			**1:643**	

What is proposed?

Council agreed at its Special Meeting on Tuesday 3 September 2024 to present a no ward structure / one Council area to the District Council of Grant community which comprises ten Elected Members; one Mayor and nine Area Councillors.



Given Council's existing Central Ward contains approximately 76% of the Council area and is represented by seven of the nine ward Councilors, it was identified that the current ward structure is unequal.

The District Council of Grant wants to ensure that communities from smaller townships and localities are adequately represented on Council. It is proposed that Elected Members will represent the Council area as a whole and all the communities (large and small) ensuring fair and adequate representation of the community, if wards are abolished.

Get involved

Community members are invited to have their say on the proposed future ward structure and composition. Feedback can be submitted before 5:00pm Tuesday 22 October 2024 by:

- Completing the online feedback form on Your Say DCG (yoursaydcg.com.au/)
- Emailing feedback to info@dcgrant.sa.gov.au
- Writing a letter or completing a hard copy feedback form address to the District Council of Grant, PO Box 724, Mount Gambier SA 5290

Community members who submit feedback may speak to their submission in person at a Council forum or meeting. Those wishing to do so must indicate this in their written submission.

Multiple Drop-In Sessions are scheduled to gain a better understanding of what is proposed. Refer page 17.

Hard copy information is also available at Council's Principal Office and Port MacDonnell Community Complex.

Join the Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel

Expressions of interest now open

Make a positive impact on disability accessibility and inclusion in our district by expressing your interest in joining our Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel today.

The District Council of Grant is committed to ensuring people within our community who have a lived experience of disability can access services to participate in all aspects of life.

Council's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2020 – 2024 sets the roadmap to achieve our vision to be a fully inclusive society that values and respects all people as equal and contributing members of the community.

The Plan outlines 64 actions envisaged to be delivered over a 4-year period to increase accessibility across 4 key areas:

1. Information and Communication
2. Built Environments and Facilities
3. Employment
4. Programs and Services

Council's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan will be updated early in 2025 when new State Government Legislation has been gazetted.



What does an Advisory Panel Member do and who's involved?

The role of the Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel is to identify and assist Council in the delivery of priority actions within the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2020 - 2024. As detailed within the Advisory Panel's Terms of Reference, members are also required to:

- Provide advice and feedback to District Council of Grant employees on policy or project development and review, across all areas relevant to people with disability;
- Provide advice and feedback to the District Council of Grant employees related to the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan;
- Advise on submissions Council may make relating to State and Federal Government strategy, policy, regulation and legislation;
- Provide advice to Council of how to identify issues that are relevant to people with disability and how to priorities projects; and
- To identify Disability Access and Inclusion project opportunities in the District.

The Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel consists of up to 12 members, with at least 2 members having lived experience of disability.

The term of membership for individuals is 2 years, with a right to reappoint for a further 2 years.

Apply to join our Advisory Panel today!

The District Council of Grant is currently seeking expressions of interest for additional members. Interested community members are invited to express their interest in joining the Access and Inclusion Advisory Panel:

- Online via the Expression of Interest Form on Your Say DCG (scan the QR code below)
- Email info@dcgrant.sa.gov.au
- Written application addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, PO Box 724, Mount Gambier SA 5290 or delivered to the District Council of Grant, 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier

Hard copy applications are available at Council's Principal Office at 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier and Port MacDonnell Community Complex at 5-7 Charles Street, Port MacDonnell.

Interested infdividuals are encouraged to speak to a Council staff member about their expression of interest on (08) 8721 0444.

Expressions of interest for membership close 5:00pm Friday 25 October 2024.

Waste & Recycling Update

Express your interest in gaining the kerbside collection service

The District Council of Grant is making waste management more accessible for residents by expanding its kerbside rubbish and recycling collection service.

Commencing in September 2024, 85 properties will receive two 240L bins for rotational fortnightly usage in Mobile Garbage Bin collection service after being approved in service expansion areas detailed in the 2024-2025 Annual Business Plan and Budget.

District Council of Grant Chief Executive Officer Darryl Whicker stated waste management is one of Councils essential services which is why additional opportunities are being provided to residents to obtain the service.

"Following changes to private bin collection arrangements, Council witnessed an increase in requests for inclusion in Mobile Garbage Bin collection service. To efficiently and effectively meet community demand in particular areas, expansions are now being delivered," Mr Whicker said.

"Upon benchmarking, Council's kerbside collection service is generally more affordable than private contractors and we look to continue delivering our service to more residents across our district,"

Property owners within the district who are not currently included in the Mobile Garbage Bin collection service but are interested in obtaining it, are invited to express their interest to be considered for future expansions.



Express your interest in obtaining Council's Mobile Garbage Bin collection service:

1. Visit Your Say DCG at yoursaydcg.com.au/ or via the QR code below
2. Sign into your Your Say DCG account or create a new account
3. Select the 'Mobile Garbage Bin Collection Expansions' tile
4. Scroll down and go to map
5. Find your property using the zoom functions
6. Select the '+' icon in the menu bar
7. Drag and drop a pin onto your property
8. Confirm your property address and who is submitting the expression of interest
9. Click 'submit'

Data collected through this expression of interest process will assist Council in preparing proposals for expansion areas for the new financial year.

This information will be reported in the next Draft Annual Business Plan and Budget, and will be subject to subsequent community consultation in April / May 2025.

Following the consideration of feedback, the final Annual Business Plan and Budget, including Mobile Garbage Bin collection service expansion areas, will be considered by Council for endorsement. Once approved, residents in expansion areas will be delivered bins and charged an annual service fee.

"New reporting through the Annual Business Plan and Budget is intended to streamline the approval process for expansion areas and better enable Council to grow the capacity of the service,"

"I encourage property owners interested in obtaining our kerbside Mobile Garbage Bin collection service to reach out to Council to ensure accurate data is collected on areas of demand for the service."

Council staff are also available to assist at the Principal Office at 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier or by phone on (08) 8721 0444.

Dog & Cat Owner Reminders

Dog park etiquette

Council-designated 'off-lead' dog parks are a great way for your dog to burn off some excess energy and socialise with other dogs. A visit can be a social outing for owners too, providing opportunity to meet other people with the same interest in dogs.

The dog park experience can be fun for everyone if a few simple recommendations regarding the appropriate etiquette are followed.

Follow the rules posted at the dog park

Obeying the rules is a condition of using a dog park. The rules might relate to safety, legal responsibilities, or respect for people living adjacent to the park. Regardless of your personal opinions of the rules, as a responsible dog owner you should adhere to them.

Always clean up after your dog

It is your responsibility to clean up after your dog. Many dog parks have 'poop bag' dispensers, but you should always take your own bags in case there is no dispenser or it is empty. If you notice someone not picking up their dog's waste, offer them a spare bag from your own supply as a gentle reminder. If you notice waste from another dog that has been left at the park, be prepared to clean it up so the park is a more pleasant experience for everyone.

Only healthy dogs should attend

If you think your dog is sick or it has been diagnosed with an illness by your vet, leave it at home until it has recovered. Taking your sick dog to the park not only puts other dogs at risk, but your own dog is more susceptible to infections and bullying by other dogs while it is unwell.

*Sourced from the Dog and Cat Management Board's Dog Owners' Handbook 2020



Planning & Building Update

Modifications to the Building Code of Australia

The Modern Homes provisions in the National Construction Code (NCC) 2022 commence in South Australia from 1 October 2024 and will ensure homes are more comfortable for our changing climate, as well as easier to use and more adaptable to our changing needs, supporting housing choice and ageing in place for everyone.

The energy efficiency provisions which will be applicable for Class 1 dwellings include:

- increased thermal performance requirements to 7-star equivalent energy ratings (up from 6 stars) to significantly improve comfort for residents; and
- a new whole-of-home annual energy use budget to guide the selection of more efficient building systems such as heating and cooling equipment, hot water systems, lighting and swimming pool and spa pumps.

The livable housing design provisions which will be applicable for Class 1a dwellings include:

- continuous step-free access path to a level and step-free entrance door;
- minimum door and corridor widths;
- at least one sanitary compartment (containing a toilet) and at least one shower that facilitate independent access and use; and
- additional wall framing to accommodate future grab rails in the bathroom and sanitary compartment.

Visit plansa.gov.au or scan the QR code below to find out more about the modifications and what this means for future Development Applications.

Council staff are also available to assist with enquiries at the Principal Office at 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier and by phone on (08) 8721 0444.



Mayor & CEO Drop-In Session

Speak with Council's Mayor and Chief Executive Officer

The District Council of Grant's Mayor Kylie Boston and Chief Executive Office Darryl Whicker will be available to meet and chat with community members at an upcoming Drop-In Session.

Join them at the Carpenter Rocks Hall at 26-44 Carpenter Rocks Road, Carpenter Rocks from 5:30pm Friday 25 October 2024.



Should you wish to raise any ideas or issues prior to the Drop-In Session, please contact the Council's Principal Office on (08) 8721 0444 or info@dcgrant.sa.gov.au.



Stay up to date with other Drop-In Sessions happening by following the District Council of Grant on Facebook or checking the Community Events Calendar online at www.dcgrant.sa.gov.au/community.

Sporting Clubs - Listen Up

The Limestone Coast Connected and Active Communities Program now has its own Facebook page!

Scan the QR code above to like their page on Facebook.

The page will share information about sporting grants, training courses for clubs, coaches and volunteers, and other important sporting and physical activity based programs or events, in the local region.

The Connected and Active Communities is a place-based approach that leverages local strengths to:

- increase physical activity participation;
- grow community and social connectedness;
- create equitable access and reduced social isolation;
- improve mental health and wellbeing; and
- develop young leaders.

The program services four areas in South Australia (Limestone Coast, Port Lincoln, Whyalla and Riverland) and is supported by the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing.

The Limestone Coast Connected and Active Communities Program specifically aims to achieve the following initiatives:

Find Your Community
Removing barriers to participation and helping engage disengaged groups to sport and recreation who might feel left out or overlooked, so everyone feels included and valued.

Supporting Mental Health in Clubs
Encouraging clubs to take care of their members' mental health by linking them up with resources.

Leveraging Assets
Understanding current usage patterns of sport and recreation activities and implementing strategies to activate them.

Future Leaders
Identifying young people who have a positive influence on their peers and giving them chances to grow into leadership roles.

Be Bushfire Ready

Messages from the Country Fire Service (CFS)

Prepare your property: Winter wind and rain may mean your property needs a tidy up before the weather heats up. Take advantage of the milder weather to do some work in the garden to reduce vegetation around your home:

- Remove dead branches, leaves and undergrowth from around your home, especially under trees;
- Prune tree limbs that are lower than two metres above the ground or overhang your home;
- Reduce, remove and manage vegetation such as long grass within 20 metres of your home and within 5 metres of any sheds and garages; and
- Remove bark, heavy mulch, wood piles and any other flammable materials close to your home and sheds.



Emergency kit: A good emergency kit is one that can be used for all emergencies (not just bushfires), but the best kit is the one that's ready to go.

Woollen blankets, a battery powered radio, and a first aid kit are just a few items everyone should include in their emergency kit.

Visit cfs.sa.gov.au to find out the other essential items to include in your emergency kit.



Warnings: If you see the below triangular symbols, a bushfire is threatening the area near you. Each colour represents the necessary actions you must take as soon as possible.

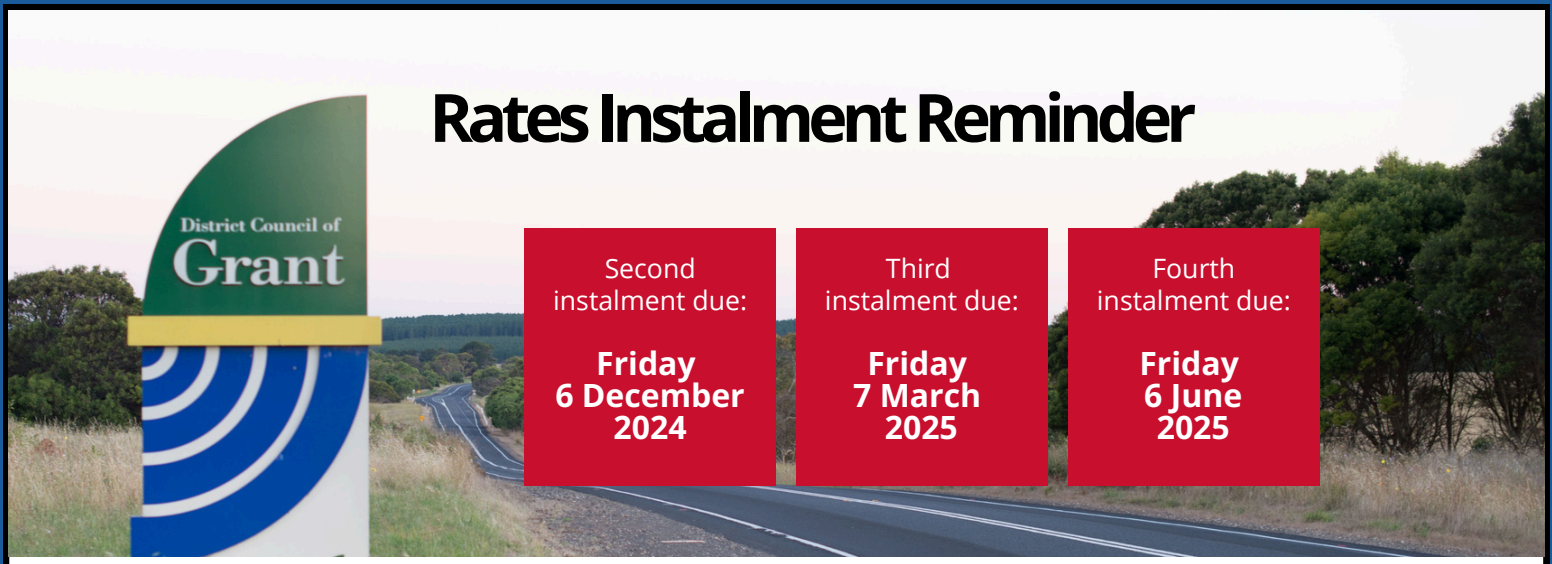
Disasters can move quickly, and waiting too long to act can be dangerous.

In any situation, your own safety always comes first. Don't wait for an official warning to take action.



Plan for your pets: Don't let your furry family members get forgotten in your bushfire survival plan!

Make sure to get your pets registered with the local council in case of separation, have secure collars, leads, and harnesses at the ready, and get them used to travel.



Rates Instalment Reminder

Second instalment due:	Third instalment due:	Fourth instalment due:
Friday 6 December 2024	**Friday 7 March 2025**	**Friday 6 June 2025**

An Australian Government Initiative

Regional Development Australia
LIMESTONE COAST

Small Business Support

Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast provide tailored ONE on ONE support for small and family businesses across the region.

You can receive free support and information on:

- Business and Strategic Planning
- Grants
- Workforce
- Human Resources
- Marketing & Communications

Sign up to The Weekly Newsletter

Contact Us Now

(08) 8723 1057 info@rdalc.org.au rdalc.org.au

Office for Small & Family Business

Government of South Australia

LCLGA Limestone Coast Local Government Association

External Grant Funding & Programs

Community Facilities Upgrade & Native Vegetation

Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program

The Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing are offering $5.6 million of funding for eligible organisations.

The Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program provides access to funding for the development of sustainable, functional, inclusive and fit-for-purpose active recreation and sport facilities that meet the current and future needs of the South Australian community.

To be eligible for funding, organisations must:

- Be a not-for-profit sport club, association or sports facility manager incorporated under the Associations Incorporations Act 1985 (SA), or hold a comparable legal status; or
- Be a local council; or
- Be a school council/board of management; and
- Have been operating for 12 months or longer.

The Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing will be hosting online information sessions to further support grant applications:

- Thursday 10 October 2024 between 11:00am and 12:00pm
- Thursday 17 October 2024 between 6:00pm and 7:00pm

Applications close midday Wednesday 27 November 2024.

More information about the grant and how to register for the online information sessions can be found on the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing's website at www.orsr.sa.gov.au/grants or by scanning the QR code.



Native Vegetation Heritage Agreement Grant Program

The South Australian Government is providing $6 million to support existing Heritage Agreements and to enable new Heritage Agreements. Supporting landowners in maintaining and enhancing these areas is critical to building ecological resilience to climate change.

If you are interested in a new Heritage Agreement or wanting to expand an existing Heritage Agreement, the Native Vegetation Council are offering landowners the opportunity to apply for an Incentive Grant. This opportunity is additional to the Grant Program and is being funded by the Native Vegetation Council.

These grants will fund short term (1 - 5 years) projects that help to protect native vegetation and enhance its condition.

A Native Vegetation Heritage Agreement is a conservation area on private land, established between the landholder and the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water on recommendation of the Native Vegetation Council (NVC), which contributes to protecting and/or restoring indigenous biodiversity.

The program is available to all landowners across South Australia.

Applications can be submitted any time before Tuesday 30 June 2026. However, landowners are encouraged to apply early for the best chance of securing funding.

More information can be found on the Department for Environment and Water's website at www.environment.sa.gov.au or by scanning the QR code.



External Grant Funding & Programs

Promoting Females in Sport & First Nations Arts & Culture

The Power of Her - Infrastructure and Participation Program

The Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing are aiming to advance change and build a legacy for girl's and women's sport in South Australia by offering $7.5 million in funding dedicated to female sporting facilities, improvements, programs and projects that grow female participation.

The objective of The Power of Her - Infrastructure and Participation Program (IPP) is to build on and deepen the legacy of the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup by providing funding for dedicated facilities, improvements to facilities, equipment and programs for girls' and women's sport in South Australia.

Successful projects will foster and enhance the participation of female athletes in sport by addressing key challenges and barriers to female participation.

The Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing will be hosting online information sessions to further support grant applications:

- Thursday 10 October 2024 between 11:00am and 12:00pm
- Thursday 17 October 2024 between 6:00pm and 7:00pm

Applications close midday Wednesday 27 November 2024.

More information about the grant and how to register for the online information sessions can be found on the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing's website at www.orsr.sa.gov.au/grants or by scanning the QR code.



Young People: First Nations Arts & Culture Project Fund

The Young People: First Nations Arts & Culture Project Fund is open to Australian First Nations artists or arts workers between the ages of 18 and 35 to support creative practice and career development, nationally and internationally across all art forms.

This opportunity aims to build the capacity of First Nations young people's skills development, career pathways, marketing, and audience development to maintain and elevate their practice and engagement in the arts and cultural sectors and creative industries.

This new initiative is part of Creative Australia's First Nations First industry development programs. The programs have been developed in response to extensive community consultation on priorities and needs of the sector in response to Pillar1, First Nations First – *Revive*, the Australian Government's shared vision for Australia: *a place for every story and a story for every place*.

These new initiatives aim to elevate existing programs and deliver new funding that build on a 50-year legacy of First Nations leadership and investment at Creative Australia.

Grants are available from $10,000 to $20,000.

Applications close 3:00pm AEDT Tuesday 12 November 2024.

More information about the grant and how to register for the online information sessions can be found on Creative Australia's website at creative.gov.au or by scanning the QR code.



District Council of Grant



Have Your Say

Elector Representation Review

Do you support Council's proposed no ward / one Council area structure and ten Elected Member composition?

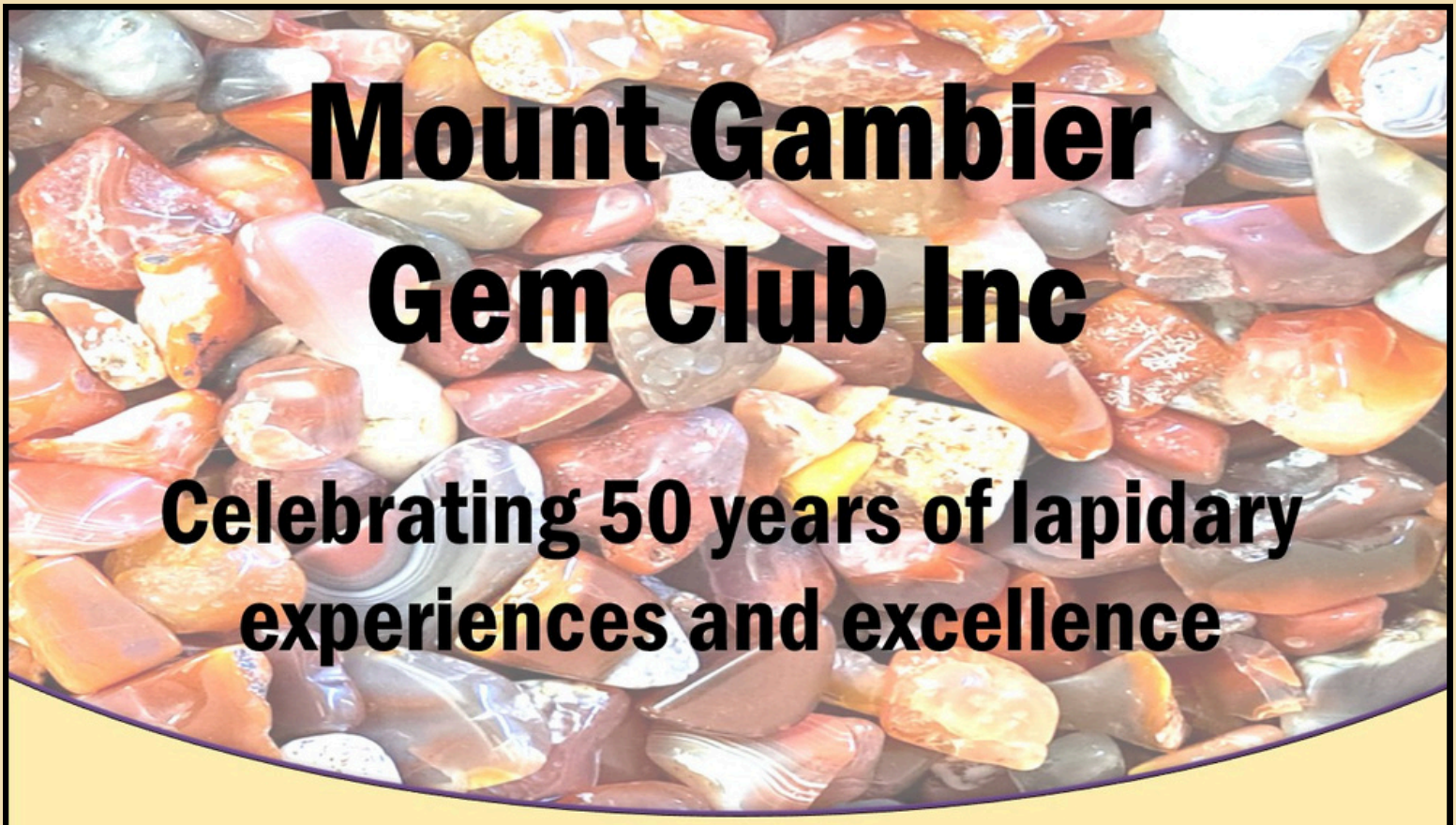
Submit your feedback by:
5:00pm Tuesday 22 October 2024

Attend a Drop-In Session:

- **Thursday 10 October 2024**
  5:00pm to 6:00pm | Mount Gambier Regional Airport
  Airport Road, Wandilo
  7:00pm to 8:00pm | Port MacDonnell Community Complex
  5-7 Charles Street, Port MacDonnell
- **Wednesday 16 October 2024**
  5:00pm to 6:00pm | Online via Microsoft Teams*
  *Registrations essential via the QR code

Scan to find out more and have your say

(08) 8721 0444 | info@dcgrant.sa.gov.au | yoursaydcg.com.au | 324 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier



Mount Gambier Gem Club Inc

Celebrating 50 years of lapidary experiences and excellence

All things mineral, rock & crystal.
Five decades of club history
will be on show at the Port MacDonnell Community Complex
5-7 Charles Street, Port MacDonnell SA

Exhibition will be opened by Mayor Kylie Boston
of District Council of Grant on
Saturday 5 October, 1.00pm at the Complex.
Please join us members for afternoon tea
and conversation.

Enquiries to Trevor on 0427 978 777 or
email mtgambiergemclubinc@gmail.com
On show until Thursday 28th November, 2024

COMPLEX OPEN 7 DAYS
Monday to Friday 9.00am– 5.00pm
Saturday & Sunday 11.00am–3.00pm
Closed Christmas Day & Australia Day
Hours are subject to change
Please check with Complex before visiting.

District Council of Grant

Port MacDonnell COMMUNITY COMPLEX

PORT MACDONNELL COMMUNITY COMPLEX
OCTOBER 2024 SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

WEEK 1

Mon 30 September - Tues 1 October	Wed 2 October*	Wed 2 October - Thur 3 October	Fri 4 October - Sun 6 October
			
Paper Flowers	Clay bowls **(5+ years)** 10-12pm 30min sessions	Sharpie Mug Decorating	Scratch Art

WEEK 2

Mon 7 October - Tues 8 October	Wed 9 October*	Wed 9 October - Thur 10 October	Fri 11 October - Sun 13 October
			
Bird seed Hangers	Cupcake Decorating **(5+ years)** 10-12pm 30min sessions	DIY night light **(3+ years)**	Potted Succulents

***Bookings required for Wednesday activities.**
Call (08) 8738 3000 to secure your place.

Storytime every Tuesday at 10:30am.

District Council of Grant

Port MacDonnell COMMUNITY COMPLEX

Australian Government Mobile Service Centre

Servicing Regional Australia

Visit the Mobile Service Centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disability, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

Information about Department of Veterans' Affairs programs and support services for veterans and their families will also be available.

Staff can provide you with information and support. They can also help you create a myGov account. myGov is a simple and secure way to access government services online.

Tuesday 15 October 2024
9:00am to 4:00pm
Opposite the Port MacDonnell Community Complex, Charles Street

For more information, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice

Australian Government

Services Australia

servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice

An Australian Government Initiative

Regional Development Australia
LIMESTONE COAST

Government of South Australia
Department of Primary Industries and Regions

Limestone Coast

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
EMERGING LEADERS



Gain confidence and foundational leadership skills with six months of training, mentoring and building connections that will drive the next step for your career and community participation.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

TOPIC	DATE
Orientation *ONLINE*	21 Oct 2024
Leading Self Workshop *RESIDENTIAL*	18-19 Nov 2024
Project Management Fundamentals *WORKSHOP*	Dec 2024
Leading Change Workshop *RESIDENTIAL*	17-18 Feb 2025
Finance Fundamentals *ONLINE*	Feb 2025
Leading Communities Workshop *RESIDENTIAL*	17-18 Mar 2025
Goverance Fundamentals *WORKSHOP*	Apr 2025
Leading in Action *WORKSHOP & GRADUATION*	1 May 2025

Scan to find out more

AT A GLANCE

TIMEFRAME
6 months
October 2024 - May 2025

INVESTMENT
Program cost $6,600
Employer sponsorship and scholarships options are available to cover this cost.

All Participants pay a contribution of $660

DELIVERY
Residential, workshops, online sessions and project work

ELIGIBILITY
- 18+ Years old
- Work/live/volunteer in the Limestone Coast