

Gippsland Regional Partnership

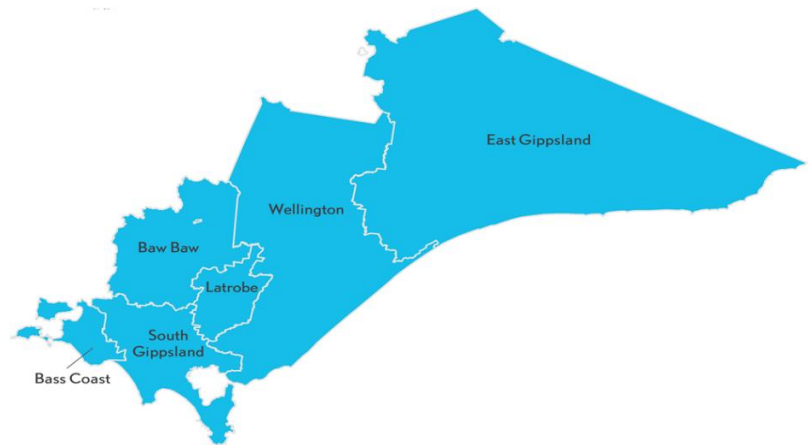
Information for applicants

About the Region

With a Gross Regional Product of \$15.9 billion, Gippsland is one of the most diverse regions in Australia and covers over 41,000 square kilometres. From unspoilt beaches to snowfields and rainforests, our region covers a vast range of stunning landscapes including the internationally renowned Wilson's Promontory National Park and one of Australia's best-known tourism experiences, the Phillip Island Penguin Parade.

Natural resources, leading to energy generation, agriculture, forestry and tourism, as well as manufacturing have, underpinned Gippsland's growth. Gippsland is a major electricity and natural gas producer for Victoria, but a global shift towards a low-carbon economy has created challenges for the energy sector and the region's economy.

Our region includes six municipalities - Bass Coast Shire, Baw Baw Shire, East Gippsland Shire, Latrobe City, South Gippsland Shire, and Wellington Shire, with a population of approximately 286,900.



What is the role of Regional Partnerships?

The Gippsland Regional Partnership is one of nine Partnerships across the state, established by the Victorian Government, recognising that local communities are in the best position to understand the challenges and opportunities faced by their region. Regional Partnerships act as a voice for their regions and advise the Victorian Government on regional priorities that reflect the unique needs and strengths of their region.

This involves engaging with rural and regional communities and a range of Government agencies, business and industry groups, community based organisations, Traditional Owner groups and Regional Development Australia Committees.

Major achievements of the Gippsland Regional Partnership include:

- Hosting Regional Roundtables with business and community members to get a better understanding of the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on local communities and help pave the way for recovery.
- Supporting Federation University's new MBA scholarship program to reduce the cost to Gippsland students by 80%.
- Launching the Gippsland Regional Digital Plan in November 2019. The Plan aims to help improve digital connectivity for communities throughout Gippsland.
- Helping to secure funding for the Gippsland Destination Management Plan, a 10-year tourism strategy, which was released in September 2019.
- Leading advocacy for the expansion and improvement of education infrastructure in the region, which has helped attract \$60m in funding for the development of the Federation Training TAFE campuses in Sale and Morwell.
- Helping grow Gippsland's food and fibre sector, having received \$700,000 to develop an Action Plan for food and fibre in the 2018/19 State Budget.

Who are we looking for?

We acknowledge that Gippsland Regional Partnership business is conducted on Aboriginal land, including the lands of the Gunaikurnai, Bunurong, and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people, as well as other Traditional Owner groups in Victoria who are not yet formally recognised. We are aiming to attract people from all parts of the Gippsland region and people from diverse backgrounds. We encourage applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Victorians, as well as:

- people from LGBTIQ+ communities;
- people with disability;
- people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds;
- young people; and
- women.

We are seeking a combination of emerging and experienced regional leaders and passionate business and community members for all Partnerships.

FAQs

What happens after I apply?

Your application will be assessed by a selection panel. Interviews are expected to be completed during **October 2020**, with the final outcomes of the application process expected in **January 2021**.

If you proceed to interview, we will ask if you require any adjustments to the interview process. This can include changing the way we conduct the interview (for example, by phone or video conference instead of in person) or having a support person or advocate present.

If you are interested in applying, we encourage you to contact your local Regional Development Victoria office for a confidential discussion (see *Key Contacts* below).

What is expected of Regional Partnership members?

The Gippsland Regional Partnership is currently holding bi-monthly meetings (online) for approximately 2 hours. Most members also participate in working groups focusing on different aspects of Regional Partnership work and attend events and stakeholder engagement sessions from time to time.

Other expectations are laid out in the **Position Description**.

I am running for the upcoming Local Government elections. Can I also apply for the Regional Partnership?

Each Local Government area is represented on its relevant Partnership by its Chief Executive Officer. The Partnerships span multiple Local Government Areas and take a strategic, region-wide lens to most of the issues they tackle. Any interested person from a regional Victorian community is welcome to apply to be a Regional Partnership member. Please consider the time you will be able to commit to the Partnership.

If you wish to withdraw your application at any stage in the process, please let us know.

Key Contacts

The below contacts are available Monday–Friday, 9am–5pm, using the National Relay Service 133 677 if required.

Manager:

Nicala Oakley, Manager, Regional Planning and Coordination
Regional Development Victoria Gippsland
t: 0438 471 098

Coordinator:

Kylie Gore, Regional Partnership Coordinator
Regional Development Victoria Gippsland
t: 0427 413 299
e: gippsland.partnership@rdv.vic.gov.au