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Media Release

## Working together for community health

Key organisations across Bass Coast and South Gippsland have signed on to the National 'Choose Tap' campaign in a joint effort to improve health outcomes in the community.

In a Victorian first, the South Coast Water Partnership brings together partners from across various sectors to support our community to improve their health and the environment by drinking tap water. The South Coast Primary and Community Partnership, South Gippsland Water, Westernport Water, Bass Coast Shire Council, South Gippsland Shire Council and GippSport have signed a joint statement of commitment to the South Coast Water Partnership.

The unique collaboration aims to make tap water the first drink of choice in Bass Coast and South Gippsland by supporting the national Choose Tap campaign. Local tap water is clean, safe and full of essential minerals that keep us performing at our best. Choosing to drink tap water out of a refillable drink bottle is a step towards cleaner, greener communities and waterways that are free from single use plastic.

Choose Tap is a national initiative promoting the three main benefits of drinking tap water: it's better for your health, the environment and your hip pocket.

### ***Quotes attributed South Coast Water Partnership spokesperson Sarah Green***

"By joining forces and combining resources, we are able to achieve more with less and make sure our messages are aligned. There are so many good reasons to encourage people to drink tap water and the Choose Tap national campaign sums them up well."

### ***Quotes attributed to Choose Tap Campaign Coordinator Eliza Fazackerley***

"We're thrilled that the South Coast Water Partnership has signed on as Choose Tap supporters. Having a group of water corporations, local councils and health organisations joining forces in this way is a first, and we're very excited to see their impact in the Bass Coast and South Gippsland areas."

"Originally founded by Yarra Valley Water in 2011, the Choose Tap coalition is now made up of water corporations and councils from across Australia. They work together to enhance perceptions of tap water, improve environmental and health outcomes in their communities, and cause a beneficial shift for future generations in terms of how they relate to tap water."

To get in touch with the partnership, please call South Coast Primary and Community Partnership on 0409 798 861.



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