



Southern Rural Water managing director, Clinton Rodda, East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority CEO, Graeme Dear, Member for Gippsland, Darren Chester, Bairnsdale Regional Health Service CEO, Terese Tierney, and East Gippsland Water managing director, Bruce Hammond, at a gathering of East Gippsland executive officers in Lakes Entrance last week. K214-8045

Business heads working together for the east

A collection of East Gippsland chief executive officers met with Member for Gippsland, Darren Chester, last Friday to discuss key issues affecting the region and ways the government could help East Gippsland to flourish.

Mr Chester said the local community was fortunate to have some strong, skilled leaders who are working collectively to help grow East Gippsland as a region.

"Local agencies are working together, sharing their facilities and resources so that government money can be well targeted," Mr Chester said.

"The CEO Forum is bringing together community leaders to create a united vision for the

future, and to identify how existing agencies can assist each other to deliver the best results for East Gippsland."

Mr Chester said a wide range of issues was discussed, including economic growth, community infrastructure, growing tourism and providing adequate training opportunities to meet future needs.

He said he was impressed by the dedication of local CEOs to the broader East Gippsland community and their willingness to work together to provide the best possible results.

"It's important community leaders are working together to identify priority projects so that governments can be clear about where funding needs to be directed," Mr Chester said.