Local Government perspective

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(currently Covid19 Recovery Manager)
Local Government’s role in disaster risk reduction

- Community at the centre
- Local knowledge
- Land use planning
- Community engagement
- Partnership
- Integrated planning – community services
- All levels of government working together
Flooding in Maroondah

Dandenong Creek near H.E. Parker Reserve, Heathmont
Feb 2011, 1 in 80 ARI
Level of influence

- Influence development proposals
- Mitigation/capital works
- Community risk awareness, better maintenance schedules and capacity issues
- Collaboration with emergency services

- Using data to inform practice
- Scenario based planning
Who really knows what Councils do?

Consequence of policy decisions to meet immediate needs

Regulatory standards enacted by Local Government

Councils are the closest level of government to community
Challenges
Local government are in conflicted positions, on one hand we are established to enact regulatory standards of State Governments and on the other deliver, facilitate and advocate for services that improve community health, wellbeing and social connections that are so important to building community resilience.

In some instances... we have to do our own thing, but I would call it community centred leadership. We become leaders and something that others look to for inspiration. Councils need to plan, lead and advocate for change based on community needs. Our community expects us to. This can be more complex when it is not a priority at state and federal levels.
Development in Maroondah

Flood Modelling & Planning

We have the information, we can now respond to flooding issues during the Planning stage.

There is more involvement during planning but fewer problems later during construction or when there is a flooding issue!

By creating a formal Special Building Overlay (via Integrated Planning) we will increase public awareness and create formal planning triggers for flooding.

Improved internal understanding and processes around flooding issues.