



bushfire&natural  
**HAZARDS**CRC

# EXTENDING INTO COMMUNITY- LED PREPAREDNESS AND PLANNING

(Just enough but not too much?)

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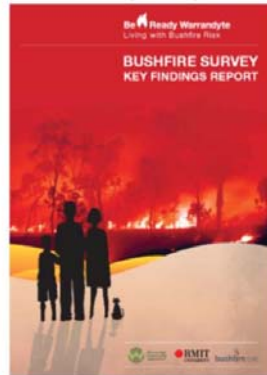
Australian Government  
Department of Industry,  
Innovation and Science

**Business**  
Cooperative Research  
Centres Programme

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# Toolkit

## Survey Report



## Fire Watch App



## Fire Plans



## Emergency Planner



## Video



## Scenario Events




## Bunker Tours

Image source: Dick Davies, Be Ready Warrandyte

# WHAT 'COMMUNITY-BASED' IS AND ISN'T

- 
- Community
    - Participation
    - Ownership
    - Capacity-building
  - Sharing responsibility and community resilience in action
  - Co-production of public services
  - A renegotiated social contract
  - Empowering communities

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- Working "at" community level
  - Risk, cost and responsibility shifting by government
  - "Old wine in new bottles"
  - Communities "taking greater responsibility"
  - Communities working by themselves

# COMMUNITIES ARE PUSHING THIS AHEAD



...and governments aren't doing too badly either!

## WHY DO IT?

- Behaviour change
- Greater community reach
- Local leadership networks
- Translate & reinforce communication
- Innovate and test new ideas
- Is more cost effective
- Influence government policy

Developing good relationships (trust, respect) lets you tackle issues that were previously off the table



Image source: Be Ready Warrandyte

# WORKING TOGETHER

- The most successful examples have good government support
- The line between community and government is overstated
- It takes time and commitment
- Awareness of restrictions on public officials

Be  Ready Warrandyte



# CHALLENGES FOR MAKING IT WORK

- Challenging 'the system' while trying to work with it involves trade-offs and tensions
- Shifting power is uncomfortable and resisted by those who have it
- Establishing clear community authority can be difficult
- Governments need internal changes to support it
- Every community and community-based approach is different (to state the obvious!)

## ENOUGH BUT NOT TOO MUCH?

*"I think the out of the box solutions are critical but thinking about it, Be Ready worked because it did have a fair bit of corporate [CFA] influence. It kind of did its own thing but it did have a corporate influence. [...] I think we got the balance right. I think as a whole the authorities supported what they were doing."  
(Be Ready Warrandyte participant)*



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