

Future of Local Government Summit Melbourne, 23-24 May 2019

Reflections and Starting Points

Five years of big pictures: a selection

- **Low Road or High Road? (business as usual or sustainability)**
- **Rewiring Public Services: Rejuvenating Democracy**
- **Councils Leading the Way in the UK**
- **Business Model Transformation**
- **Future of Local Public Services**
- **Virtual Local Government**
- **Adaptive Leadership**
- **New Zealand's New Local Democracy**
- **Rebooting Democracy in an Age of Dislocation**
- **Less Local Government – More Local Governance**
- **Shaping and Selling a New Australian Localism**
- **Transforming Local Government**
- **Beyond Devolution and Towards Resilience**
- **Creating Age-Friendly Communities**
- **Transitioning to A Zero Carbon Community**

Five years of case studies: a selection

- **Central Goldfields Place-based Strategies**
- **Wellington-Blayney-Cabonne Alliance**
- **Golden Plains Community Planning**
- **Geraldton Participatory Budgeting**
- **Richmond Valley Challenge of Change**
- **Cardinia Transforming to Smarter Working**
- **Lismore Community Solar Farms**
- **Moreland Energy Foundation**
- **Thames-Coromandel Community Boards**
- **Carlton Connect**
- **Whitehorse Neighbourhood Project**
- **Ballarat Digital Transformation**
- **Mandurah Learning to be Community-Led**
- **Bendigo BHive Shared Economy Cooperative**
- **Lake Macquarie Community-Led Sustainability**

2017 Declaration revisited

- *...the state of the nation and the health of our society depend on community-driven action in the neighbourhood, not just decisions made in parliaments or boardrooms...Our present ways of thinking and governing are neither coping with the pace of change nor meeting citizens' expectations. There is an urgent need for a fresh approach and responsive leadership.*
- *It's time to explore a new model of governance, one based on a re-energised civil society that draws on the strength and resourcefulness of people working together in diverse local and regional communities – a **localist** response.*

- *Local government has made a good start in addressing these issues, but must work hard to build on its achievements. Councils have a unique mandate to support, represent and give voice to ‘communities of place’.*
- *To play a valued and effective role in a new system of community-based governance, councils need the legislative flexibility and scope to take further steps along the road to localism.*

First Steps: How Does Your Council Score?

1. Consider how council's own role and approach to community leadership may need to change, and what additional skills and capacity may be required
2. Establish collaborative regional and national networks mechanisms to share experience with other councils and communities
3. Invite citizens to become partners in framing a 'New Story' for the local area, town, city or region
4. 'Map' the energy of the groups and networks that make up our communities (Asset-Based Community Development)
5. Work with local communities to develop an action plans that address their differing needs and opportunities, and agree ways to measure progress
6. Commit to collaboration with other councils, State and Federal governments, business and civil society as an essential way of working
7. Adopt a decentralised model for council's own activities, including place-based planning and service delivery, and devolving decision-making to communities.

The 2019 Challenge: 100 'Big-Little' Ideas

- By the end of today, write at least one 'big-little' idea on a Post-It Note and stick it on the Ideas Wall
- We'll collate and type them up tonight, and print copies for everyone
- Tomorrow we'll discuss them in table groups and finish up with a 'Top Ten' (or thereabouts): a new Action Agenda