

# Start Local.

## *Let it happen, make it work*

### 10 TIPS to help you build resilient communities

- 1 Put the local into Local Government**

Embrace the role that local and central government play in starting local. Done well, their enabling and leadership roles are circuit breakers.
- 2 Community-led development means changing what we do**

Just because it's local, doesn't mean it's community-led. Understand how this new operating model builds from local wisdom and leadership – requiring flexibility and collaboration.
- 3 Let go the reins!**

The local/central government/funder role is to support, connect, resource, partner and share the risk with local places. Local communities need support to be able to lead – they don't just want to be led.
- 4 Change the mindset**

Move on from fixing problems and people. What we focus on grows – everyone has something to contribute, find room so they can. Start with what communities already have and are good at.
- 5 Mandate risk and innovation**

Count the cost of doing nothing. Complex challenges require creative responses to see what might work – there is no best practice!
- 6 Invest in and value effective relationships**

It is people, connections and trust that make things happen, detailed plans and strategies are not the core elements of success.
- 7 Build local capacity**

Help create community readiness so 'the hood' can change the hood. Grow capacity in local people, places and partners to do – do differently – and lead together.
- 8 Grow the evidence base**

Evaluation is important. It helps capture change and communicates the value and practice of effective locally-led approaches.
- 9 Create safe spaces for sharing what works and what doesn't**

Community-led development is messy and best learnt by doing. Trading stories and insights across communities catalyses impact, understanding and emerging practice.
- 10 Explore and develop new skill sets**

Supporting effective locally-led change requires systems navigators, social brokers, community activators & animators, social entrepreneurs and strategic change makers.