



BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

10 tips to help you, by starting local



TOP TEN TIPS TO HELP BUILD MORE RESILIENT COMMUNITIES - covering off ideas and suggestions in support of driving sustainable, effective, locally-led change.

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 REIGNS!

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.
