



BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES.

10 tips to help you, by starting local



Local wisdom²



Institute for Governance and Policy Studies
A research institute of the School of Government

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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.



ABOUT INSPIRING COMMUNITIES



Inspiring Communities weave connections and collaborations across sectors and communities.

We help make things easier for communities to work in locally-led ways – together.

We believe that communities know best about what works for them and what they need to thrive. We share local wisdom and practice-based evidence to inform public policy and systems change.

We focus our mahi around ako (learning), tautoko (supporting), tuhono (connecting) and whakaaweawe (influencing) to grow a rich kete of practices, tools and support for communities to flourish.

Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi: With your basket and my basket, we will sustain the people.

Talk to us about your CLD training, workshop needs, coaching, support and opportunities in your community or region.

👉 Email us exchange@inspiringcommunities.org.nz

Our Getting Started kete will help you apply each of our 5 CLD principles to your role using:

- practical tools, skills and resources, building on the starter kete foundations
- actions, stories and examples of people across different roles and environments, and how they applied them.

Link to: [Inspiring Communities Resources](#)

Great resource links

- 👉 [Community-Led Development Principles](#)
- 👉 [The Quadrants of Change](#)
- 👉 [CLD Theory of Change](#)