

# VCRC Newsletter



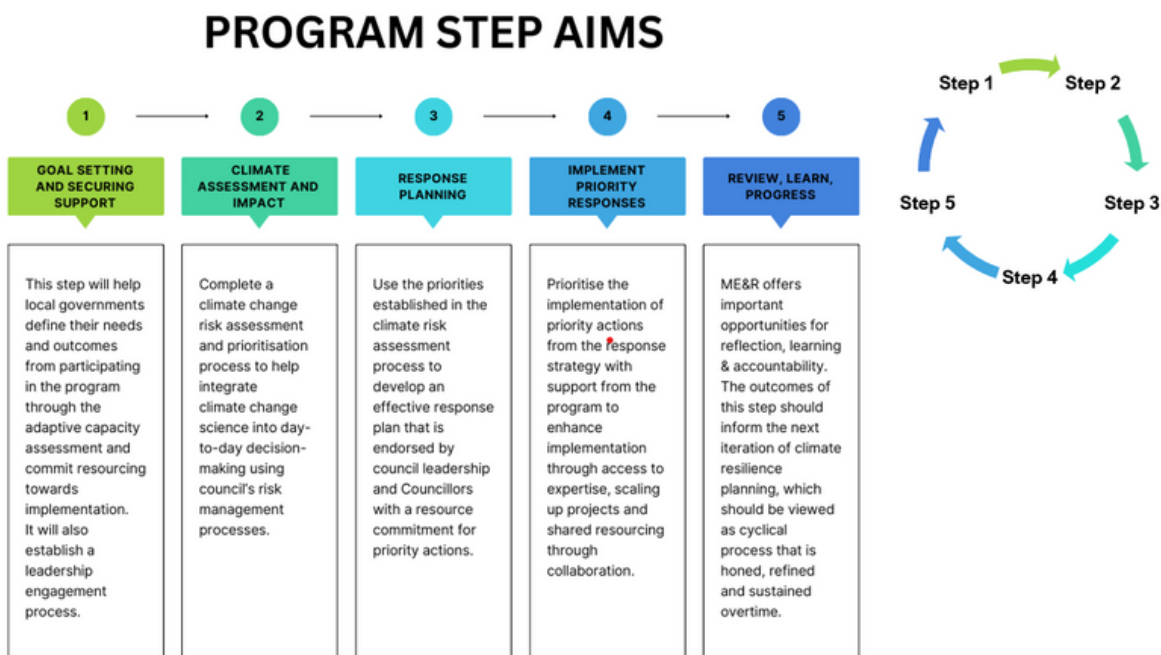
VICTORIAN CLIMATE  
RESILIENT COUNCILS

## Summary of the VCRC presentation at the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances Conference 2023

The Victorian Greenhouse Alliances Conference 2023 was held on 4 August where more than 400 local government officers, decision-makers and key stakeholders from the Victorian Government and private organisations attended. Highlights included a keynote talk on climate action by Traditional Owners organisations in Victoria and breakout sessions on climate resilience, carbon mitigation and related energy topics for local government. And of course everyone got to catch up and chat!

The Victorian Climate Resilient Councils (VCRC) team held a session on the progress on developing the VCRC project, the draft program model and the need to engage council leadership teams as a first step in the journey towards climate resilience.

The session included a look at the five key steps towards climate resilience, which will form the backbone of the VCRC program model – shown below.

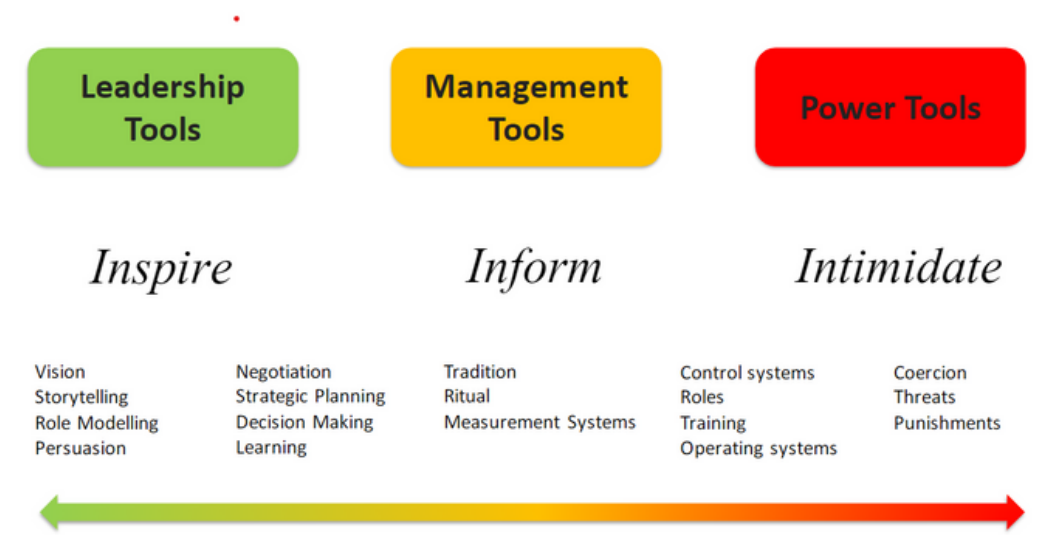


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The VCRC team also presented a case study of the City of Greater Dandenong’s process for engaging its own executive and leadership team. Dandenong used a range of tools designed to inspire, inform and create the required sense of urgency for decision-makers to support adaptation across service areas.

One effective tool was Council’s community satisfaction survey, which included specific questions about residents’ concerns about climate change and Council’s response. Due to the prominence of the survey and the robust results, it ensured that Council’s senior decision-makers were well-aware that their community wants action.

There are arrange of tools to assist



All the conference presentations, including the VCRC session, can be downloaded from the [VGAs’ website](#).

## How will VCRC be consulting with councils over 2023 and 2024?

For the VCRC team it’s a high priority to consult with councils during the development project. Below is a summary of key activities and proposed timing of consultation.



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## VCRC'S COUNCILS CONSULTATION PROGRAM

VCRC ACTIVITIES	CONSULTATION ACTIONS (OBTAINING FEEDBACK ON ANALYSIS, ALTERNATIVE AND DECISIONS)	TIMING
Develop program model	<p>Undertake 'Adaptive Capacity Assessment (ACA)' pilot with interested councils. Results will inform draft program model.</p> <p>Participation from a range of metro, regional and rural councils will be critical to ensure the program suits councils with varying capacity across Victoria. Depending on how many regional and rural councils participate in the ACA trial and other aspects of the project, the team may organise specific consultation for councils in the regions.</p>	<p>Seek EOIs from councils: May – June 2023.</p> <p>Undertake pilot: August 2023 – February 2024</p>
Conduct literature review and gap analysis of councils' roles, responsibilities and supporting resources, collate VCRC resources	Seek feedback on literature review report/s and list of VCRC resources from VCRC Project Steering Committee (PSC*), interested councils and targeted subject experts.	September – November 2023
Develop guidance for Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committees (MEMPCs) to consider climate change in the review of their Community Emergency Risk Assessments (CERA)	Undertake 'CERA Review' pilot with interested councils. Trial a targeted community of practice with council officers in the pilot and other interested councils, focusing on emergency management officers working with MEMPCs.	<p>Seek EOIs from councils: May–June 2023.</p> <p>Undertake pilot: August 2023 – February 2024</p> <p>Trial community of practice: October 2023 – February 2024.</p> <p>(Community of practice may be ongoing.)</p>
Identify costs and resource requirements for VCRC and participating councils and preferred VCRC governance structure	<p>Identify costs, resource and governance requirements with VCRC PSC.</p> <p>Seek feedback on draft governance, funding and resourcing models from PSC, interested councils and targeted subject experts.</p>	<p>Initial exploratory meeting with PSC: 31 May 2023</p> <p>Seek feedback from PSC and councils on drafts: February – March 2024</p>

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VCRC ACTIVITIES	CONSULTATION ACTIONS (OBTAINING FEEDBACK ON ANALYSIS, ALTERNATIVE AND DECISIONS)	TIMING
Evaluate and prepare ongoing key components of VCRC	Seek feedback from PSC, interested councils and other target stakeholders on all final draft outputs: program model, guidance for CERA review, governance, funding and resourcing models, business case for VCRC platform and collated resources for VCRC.	March – September 2024. (Timing will be refined early in 2024, following evaluation of 2023 progress.)
Evaluate VCRC development phase and set up for ongoing program	Conduct full evaluation through stakeholder and partner survey and workshop/s, including PSC and councils which have participated in VCRC development. The Project Steering Committee PSC comprises representatives from each of the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances.	April – November 2024. (Timing will be refined early in 2024, following evaluation of 2023 progress.)

## What is next?

During the next month the team will be:

- Holding the first meeting of the the Adaptive Capacity Assessment working group.
- Continuing with the literature review.
- Refining the program, governance, funding and resourcing models.

### Connect

If you would like further information about VCRC you can find more information on our [website](#) or contact our team on [vcrcprogram@gmail.com](mailto:vcrcprogram@gmail.com)

*Thank You*