

April edition – 2024

VCRC Newsletter



Climate Change and Emergency Management Working Group

Next month the VCRC team will reconvene the Climate Change and Emergency Management Working Group, a group of emergency management and sustainability officers from across the state. We'll meet three times over this year to look at:

- a specialist report commissioned for the program into the community emergency risk assessment process and how emergency management can better incorporate information on climate change to future proof decision making
- sharing good practice amongst councils
- developing a community of practice and looking at the best way to engage non-sustainability teams at council on climate change impacts to their work.

The group is open to new members, so if you work in emergency management at a council and would like to meet with other council officers to share good practice on incorporating climate change into your work and how to change processes to do this, please [contact us](#).



Business case for a VCRC digital platform

We've progressed with the development of the business case for a digital platform for the VCRC, with a number of councils completing a survey earlier in the month to help us understand what users would require from a VCRC platform.

The business case will be completed next month, and will inform the final program model for the VCRC as well as give us a head start in developing a platform once we have funding.

The VCRC is supported by the Victorian Government



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Adaptation in Action across Australia

Adaptation in Action, an online forum organised by Climate Emergency Australia and the VCRC team, had over 100 people from councils, research organisations, government agencies and community groups hear about council projects and collaboration across Australia.

Attendees heard from:

- Merri-bek City Council (VIC) on a climate risk assessment of an Early Years Hub;
- Campbelltown City Council (SA) on their Cools Spaces for Summer trial;
- Nambucca Valley Council (NSW) on improving lake water quality in the face of climate change; and
- Darwin Council (NT) on their greening research collaboration;

They also heard from local government associations and alliances from all States on their projects and collaboration, as well as the National Adaptation Policy office of the Australian Government on the development of a new [National Adaptation Plan](#).

Charlotte Turner, a specialist in climate risk governance, outlined how councils can't afford not to manage the legal liability risks of climate change.

The Forum, which was part of Day 2 of the Climate Emergency Conference, made clear the amount of collaboration and sharing that is already occurring between councils across the country, which is essential to tackling climate change.

To watch the recording and / or read the presentations with embedded videos, follow [this link](#). You can view Charlotte's talk [here](#) and watch a number of interesting NSW adaptation case studies [here](#).

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

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