

June edition – 2024

# VCRC Newsletter



## VCRC to date – recap

The project team have been developing aspects of the VCRC with the support of councils and the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances since 2022. Following a needs analysis and consultation with councils across the state, the team were successful in gaining funding from the Victorian Government to pilot work that would inform a future VCRC program.

By the end of 2024, the team will have developed a program model that will support Victorian councils to strengthen their knowledge, skills and capacity to prepare, manage and reduce increased risks due to climate change. A website with curated resources will guide councils on their climate resilience journey, and two pilot projects will inform the development of VCRC-specific tools and guidance:

- the Climate Change and Emergency Management pilot is working with sustainability and emergency management officers across the state to develop support for the challenges faced in emergency management because of climate change
- the Adaptive Capacity Assessment pilot worked with climate change officers across the state to test and update the Adaptive Capacity Checklist to enable councils to conduct a quick adaptive capacity scan to understand their organisational strengths, opportunities and priorities.

## Help needed: Resource mapping prioritisation

The VCRC team have researched a draft list of existing resources to share with councils as part of the VCRC program.

We're asking for feedback from councils who have used these resources on which ones should be prioritised for the program. If you would like to see the list to see if reviewing the resources you are familiar with is something you can help with, please contact Karen: [karen.gardham@wyndham.vic.gov.au](mailto:karen.gardham@wyndham.vic.gov.au)



The VCRC is supported by the Victorian Government



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## A business case for an online platform

The VCRC commissioned a business case for developing an online communications platform for the VCRC program, which would be delivered should we gain funding for the implementation stage of the program next year.

Part of developing the business case involved a survey of councils on what they would find useful in such a platform, which helped thinking on the VCRC program model. The survey was completed by officers across 24 councils, and the main findings included:

- the most important features they wanted from a platform were to access documents and toolkits, access specialist advice from VCRC staff, and share information / ideas / documents amongst other councils and VCRC staff
- the least valuable thing for them in a platform was seeing how other councils were doing in the program
- they were less concerned about using embedded tools in the platform to work their way through the program, as opposed to downloading the tools to use separately.

## VCRC Project Steering Committee

As we move into the final months of the development stage of the VCRC, our Project Steering Committee is meeting every six weeks to provide input and advice to the work of the project team. The PSC is made up of representatives from each Victorian Greenhouse Alliance so is able to input views from councils across the state.

The June meeting confirmed that one of the most important gaps in resources and support for councils is in understanding and delivering climate change risk assessments. The VCRC team will develop a tool for this if we are successful in gaining implementation funding from the federal government next year, but we will also work toward providing an understanding of options and needs in this stage of the program.

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)