Land Developer "Community Resilience Report" Checklist for Green Star- Communities PILOT Rating Tool

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This checklist has been prepared to guide developers in documenting and implementing a Community Reslience Process for their new community.

Australia has a history of extreme climatic events, such as cyclones, bushfires, droughts, thunderstorms, heatwaves and floods. Historically, the nature of these events differs from location to location and some events may have extreme impacts only at a local level (such as localised thundershorms). In order to respond to these events, there is a need for increased preparedness, independence and self-reliance of communties.

The Community Resilience process aim to address this need by providing a new community with information on the local climatic context and by increasing community self-reliance through all phases of prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. Developers have the ability to facilitate increased community resilience through community liaison personnel and through information provision.

The checklist below outlines the key sections of a *Community Resilience Report*. In their Green Star-Communities submission, the developer is to use this checklist and nominate the section of the "Community Resilience Report" that addresses each of the items below.

Contents of Community Resilience Report	Section of Report
Context and background	
Outline what commitment has been made to ensure the community being developed will have the capacity to be resilient and self-reliant. Generally the the overall goal should be self-resilience and inter-connectedness with existing plans and the surrounding community.	
Identify resources that document the regional and local extreme event history for the area (minimum 50 years), addressing types of events, frequency and severity[1] of events such as cyclones, heatwaves, thunderstorms, floods, earthquakes and bushfires.	
Identify resources that identify potential changes to the intensity and frequency of extreme events to assist in preparing for a changing climate[2]. Document other relevant external changes to the area and any impact(s) these may have on the sensitivity of the development to a changing climate (such as new major infrastructre, changes to vegetation management, other new developments in the area).	
Document the local and regional profile in terms of town/suburbs, watercourses, proximity to coastal zones, bushfire prone areas and existing flood plains. Document the local and regional access and transport systems and the resilience of these systems to different extreme events (including whether local or regional access has been impacted by previous events).	

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[1] *Note: Projects in Queensland are able to source this information from www.hardenup.org.*

[2] *Note: The BOM/CSIRO publication "Climate Change in Australia" publication is a useful reference http://climatechangeinaustralia.com.au/.*

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Document the proposed likely demographic, socio-economic, built form and local governance profile for the new community and for the adjacent community, including specific reference to language and cultural challenges for increased self-resilience that will need to be addressed.	
Identify and review the current local emergency/disaster plan (if in existance) and consider whether it covers all potentially locally and regionally relevant extreme events.	
Identify and review available state, regional and local prevention, preparedness, response and recovery resources including emergency phone numbers.	
Identifiy and document key relevant stakeholders (community, SES, council etc).	
Identify the entity preparing the Community Resilience Report.	
Consider how the Community Resilience process will be maintained or updated over time including transition to other entities when the development is complete. Governance and accountability should be clearly outlined, as well as mechanisms to resource identified actions including specific details of volunteer programs.	
Council (or equivalent) Consultation	
Identify consultation undertaken with the local council regarding increasing the resilience of the new community and integrating the community within existing emergency management processes. Specifically address any local access risks and associated proceedures and responsibilities.	
Document any impact of the development on existing community risks such as through increases or decreases in the nature and extent of vegetation and drainage.	
Community Consultation, Education and Engagement	
Provide details of how the Community Resilience process has been communicated amongst the community to educate and raise awareness, including where the information is available from in future.	

Outline details of the opportunity provided for the community to aggregate to discuss and be provided with information about disaster prevention, household and neighbourhood preparedness, response and recovery. Must include information about all phases of prevention, preparedness, response and recovery[3].
 	
Examples include identification of relevant early warning systems, risks specific to the area (such as cyclones or bushfires), details of local emergency evacuation centres, resources for pets.
 	
Provide details of how of relevant online community and official agency resources have been shared within the community, for example:
 	
    www.hardenup.org
    www.redcross.org.au/files/REDiPlan_booklet.pdf
    www.emergencyvolunteering.com.au
    www.rspcansw.org.au/services/inspectorate/floods,_bushfires_-and-_emergencies
    www.disaster.qld.gov.au/getready
    www.fesa.wa.gov.au
    www.disasters.ema.gov.au
    www.vic.gov.au/emergencies-safety/emergency-management.html	

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[3] *Information on property resilience measures including measures that can be taken to protect and retrofit existing homes is available from www.hardenup.org*

Contents of Community Resilience Report	Section of Report
Specifically detail the resources and/or incentives provided for residents to develop an emergency plan and emegency kit consistent with the requirements of the relevant local and state Emergency Plans.	
Document the process used or promoted for the identification or self-identification of vulnerable persons or groups and the climatic events each may be particularly vulnerable to (such as the elderly who need support through all major events and tradesmen who are particularly vulnerable to heatwaves). Processes could include through neighbour-to-neighbour identification, registration with local community group or through service providers such as Red Cross or Meals on Wheels. Online engagement could be encouraged through websites such as http://www.hardenup.org and http://www.emergencyvolunteering.com.au. Document the process developed or promoted to help local vulnerable residents in the case of an emergency such as through a buddy systems, phone tree or volunteer network. For example resources could be provided or promoted to assist in the establishment of processes to contact the elderley during heatwave events to ensure they are managing and have access to water, food and necessary medication. Document the process developed or promoted for the identification of those within the community with the ability or assets to assist (eg. generators, water tanks, bushfire fighting pumps, residents with specific relevant skills such as medical, police, SES etc).	