

Essential elements of the Manifesto for Rural Communities: Community Led Planning and Community Land Trusts

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A Manifesto for Rural Communities



Inspiring Community Innovation

Community Led Planning

- Is a structured process that engages local people in debate about their local area.
- It encourages them to identify local priorities, to develop local solutions and have real influence with local decision-making about their future.
- The process takes place over time, involving all sections of the community and covers all matters that affect quality of life in a local area.
- The process results in an action plan which identifies:
 - Actions the community can take forward itself
 - Actions that need external support to achieve
 - Actions that require external influence over long term statutory plans

COMMUNITY- LED PLANNING

Participatory appraisal

Citizen's Panels

Market Town Healthchecks

Planning for Real

Parish Plans

Future Visioning











Look, no cakes!



Involve them in issues **THEY** are interested in - not just what you are interested in

Make it clear that their engagement will make a difference - not just lead to marginal changes

Provide them with information in their language - not in your language

Ask them where they are - do not make them come to you

Collaborate most closely with those who most **KNOW AND CARE** about the issue or service

Tell them what **THEY** said **AND** what you have decided to do

Source: Governance International

1. **Greater publicity and clarity on local community planning processes**
2. The establishment of **effective protocols for bridging** between community-led plans and local `top-down strategies
3. **Clarifying and strengthening the role of local elected representatives**
4. **Clarifying and strengthening the role of local officials** in government and service deliverers, in particular as *contacts, facilitators, and brokers* in the engagement of local communities in the making of plans, policies, and decisions.
5. **Ensuring `quality assurance` in the preparation of community-led plans** through adequate resourcing of community development support and expertise

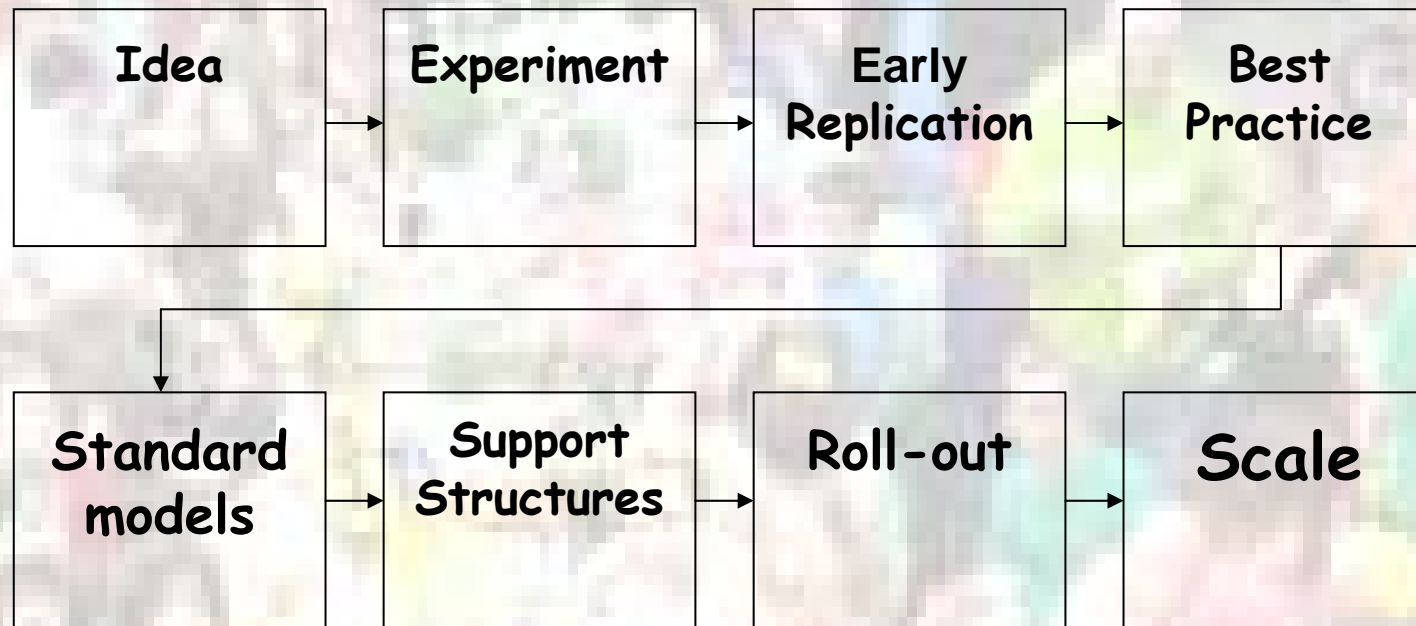


A characteristic of **empowered communities** is the existence of locally owned, community led organisations. These organisations, which may be the local community association or development trust, often provide a **local leadership** role and a **focal point for other local services**.

These characteristics include:

- that they are multi purpose,
- usually operate from a physical hub, and will often own or manage other community assets.

Individuals who feel empowered can bring a dynamic and enterprising approach to the work of their groups.



Community Land Trust work.

Background; work commences 2007, Carnegie invests £200,000 over two years to establish National Demonstration Project; over 150 homes being built and many more planned, a definition in legislation, cross party support - and now the empowerment fund