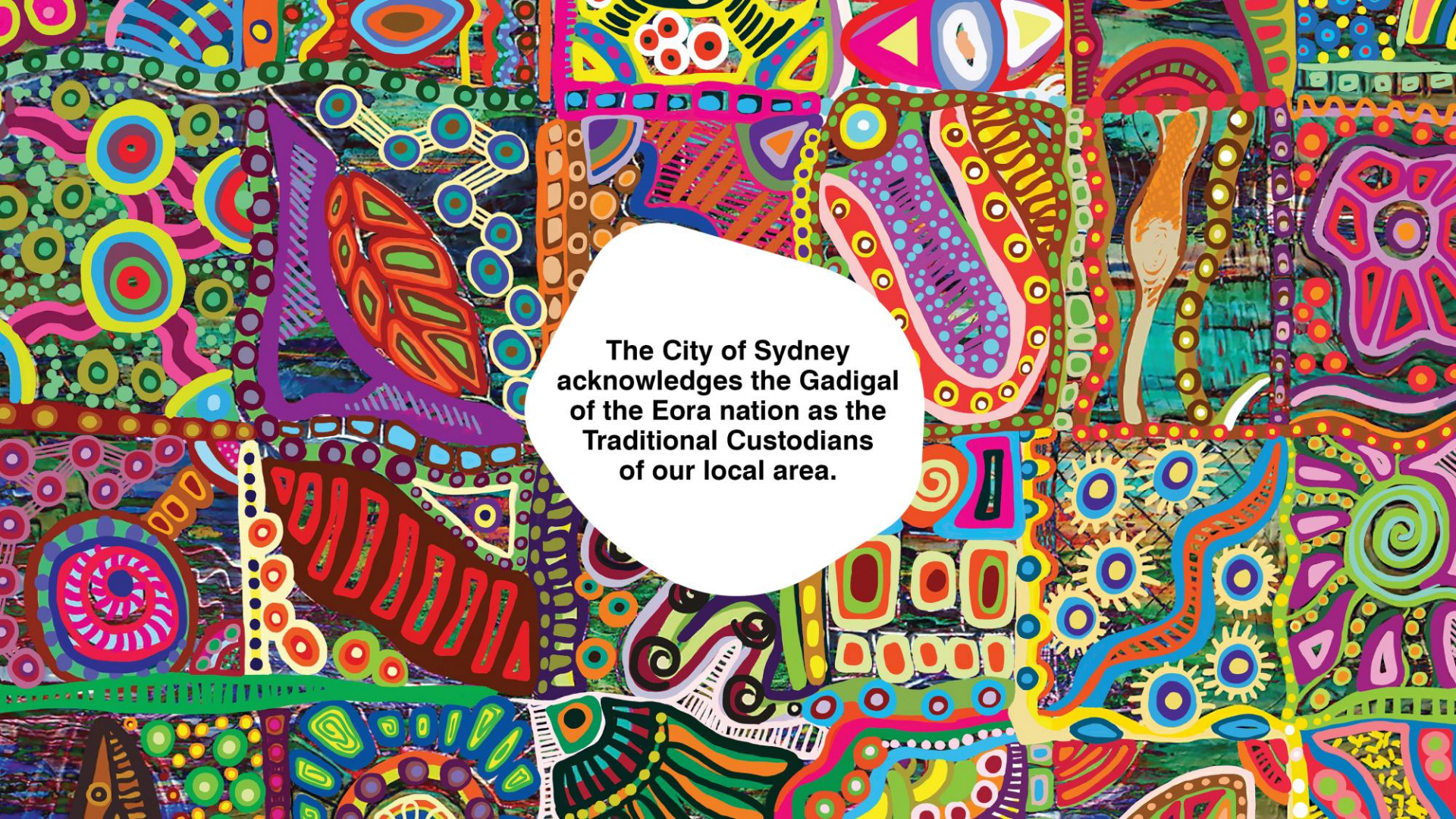


Building Climate Change Knowledge in Priority Communities; Pilot Project

In partnership with Forest Lodge and Glebe Coordination Group



**The City of Sydney
acknowledges the Gadigal
of the Eora nation as the
Traditional Custodians
of our local area.**

Pilot project background

The City of Sydney is already feeling the effects of climate change, hotter days running for longer periods and flash flooding from greater intensity in rainfall.

While climate change will affect all people in the City's local government area, priority communities will be disproportionately affected.

The City received a \$58,000 grant from the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance to deliver a co-designed program to equip priority communities to prepare for the impacts of climate change and build community resilience to shocks and stresses.

Building on the existing *Emergency preparedness handbook for people living in social housing* and focusing on one specific social housing area within the LGA complete the pilot project by end December 2024.

Project Objectives

1. Identify current community understanding of emergency preparedness, climate change, and what would help them feel more prepared for emergencies.
2. Co-design learning topics and tools with community and workshop lesson plans.
3. Deliver capacity building workshops in partnership with community, with support from the City.
4. Provide evaluation report outlining findings and recommendations from the pilot program.

Community Consultation

June - August

- Red Cross and the City attended monthly FLAG meetings.
- Red Cross hosted three community engagement sessions during July.
- Community surveys surveys to gain residents insights to their understanding of emergency preparedness.
- Feedback from FLAG and surveys assisted with design of workshops and priority areas for community.
- Community expressed the need to develop resilience packs to be distributed at the community workshops as part of the project.

Community Workshops

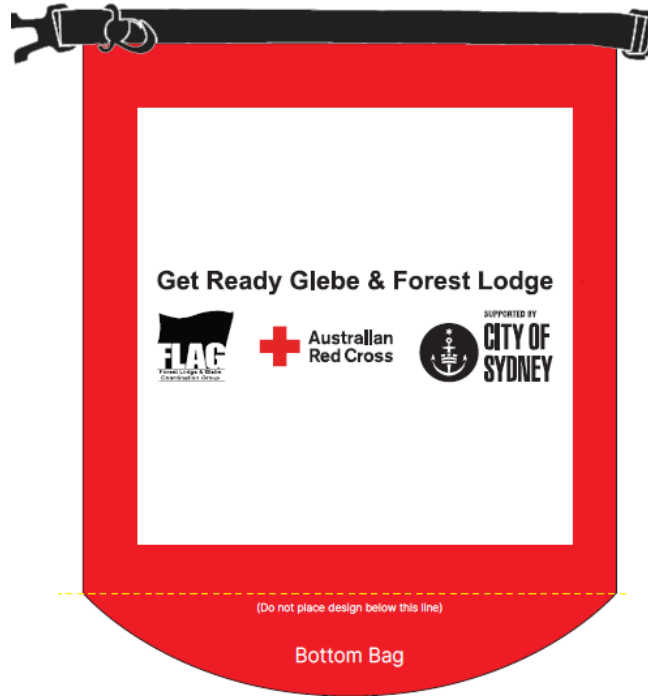
September - December

- Four community face to face co-design workshops with the core resident group and members of FLAG. Approx 30 residents participating in total.
- Identifying local risks priority populations face and current challenges in the social housing landscape.
- Community mapping and identifying local assets, resources and gaps.
- Development of a local resilience plan with three top priorities and realistic timeframes.
- Heatwave specific workshop for the wider community.
- Curation of go-bags and distribution to 300 local residents.

Community Go-Bags

- Dry Bag
- Hand Fan
- Water Bottle
- Torch
- Radio

Community resources to accompany the 300 packs including Rediplans and heatwave information.



Heatwave preparedness workshop

1 December 2024

Panel presentation and interactive discussion;

- Definition of a heatwave
- Where to get accurate information
- How to prepare and stay safe during a heatwave
- Each participant received a project go-bag and resources including a Rediplan booklet to organize key information to stay safe during an emergency

24 residents from
Glebe and Forest
Lodge area

Facilitated by the Red Cross

“
This has been a great event. I’ve lived in a few places during my life but the City of Sydney is the only council that puts these kinds of things on for their people. Now I know where to go when it gets too hot.”

Resident quote from heatwave workshop

Lessons learnt and challenges

Meeting community where they are at

- Social housing residents are faced daily with systems that fail them
- Varying experiences in community
- Ensure residents are brought along on the journey

Stakeholder relationships

- Red Cross restructure and staffing changes
- Reliance on existing community relationships and community leaders

Having the right people in the room

- Experienced Red Cross facilitators
- Flexibility and allowing time
- Who was missing from the sessions?

Next steps

1

- Final evaluation report from Red Cross mid-December
- City to acquit grant with Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance by end of year

2

- Continuing the conversation with FLAG
- Red Cross will continue work in this space

3

- Scalability with other inner city social housing communities
- Explore opportunities for 2025