

adrc 26

Australian Disaster Resilience Conference

19 – 20 AUGUST 2026

#ADRC26

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Q&A | Slido.com | #ADRC26



Art from 'Sharing Connection' by Maddi Moser (Taungurung artist), 2024



Australian Government
National Emergency
Management Agency



Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience





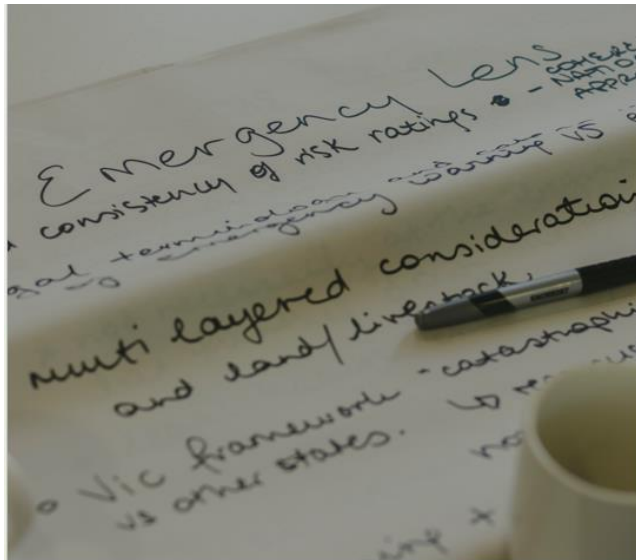
Shifting the scales: Embedding justice and equity in Australia's disaster law system



Australian Red Cross
acknowledges the
Traditional Owners
of this land, their
ancestors and Elders,
past and present.



Disasters and the Law National Symposium 2025



Disasters and the Law

Report from the 2025 Disasters and the Law National
Symposium

February 2026



- Strengthen a coordinated and coherent national approach to disaster response and risk reduction
- Implement actions from the National Adaptation Plan and facilitate and resource adaptation
- Adapt disaster models and plans to include cascading, compounding and overlapping disaster events
- Commit to centering human needs and rights in all disaster phases
- Embed legal literacy throughout all phases of disasters
- Commit to resourcing community-led disaster preparedness, including a focus on community legal education and initiatives that increase awareness of legal rights, needs and available remedies.



Moderator

- Andrew Coghlan – Australian Red Cross

Panellists

- Bridget Tehan – Australian Red Cross
- Dr Monica Taylor – Queensland University of Technology
- Dr Bronwyn Lay – Disaster Legal Help Victoria
- Jack Piper – ARC Justice



Bridget Tehan

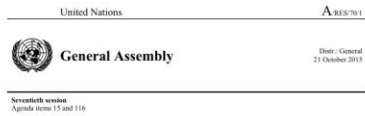
Senior Advisor Humanitarian Diplomacy

Australian Red Cross



Legal literacy: From global to local

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 - 2030



Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015
[without reference to a Main Committee (A/70/L.1)]

70/L. Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly
Adopts the following outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda:

Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Preamble
This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. We recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.
All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan. We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to build and secure our planet. We are determined to take the bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world on to a sustainable and resilient path. As we embark on this collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets which we are announcing today demonstrate the scale and ambition of this new universal Agenda. They seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what they did not achieve. They seek to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. They are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental.

The Goals and targets will stimulate action over the next 15 years in areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet.



Disaster Management Act 2003

Current as at 1 July 2024

STATUS AS AT : 12-08-2026 11:15:57 EDT

CHAPTER XXVII ENVIRONMENT

7. d Paris Agreement

Paris, 12 December 2015

Entry into force : 4 November 2016, in accordance with article 21(1) : "The Agreement enters into force on the thirtieth day after the date on which at least 55 Parties to the Convention accounting in total for at least an estimated 55 per cent of the total global greenhouse gas emissions have deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession".

Registration : 4 November 2016, No. 54113

Status : Signatories : 194. Parties : 194

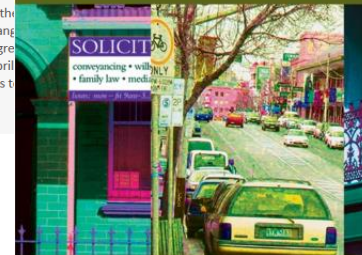
Text : [Certified true copy](#)

United Nations, [Treaty Series](#), vol. 3156, p.79

[C.N.63.2016.TREATIES-XXVII.7.d](#) of 16 February 2016 (Opening for signature) and
[C.N.92.2016.TREATIES-XXVII.7.d](#) of 17 March 2016 (Issuance of Certified True Copies).

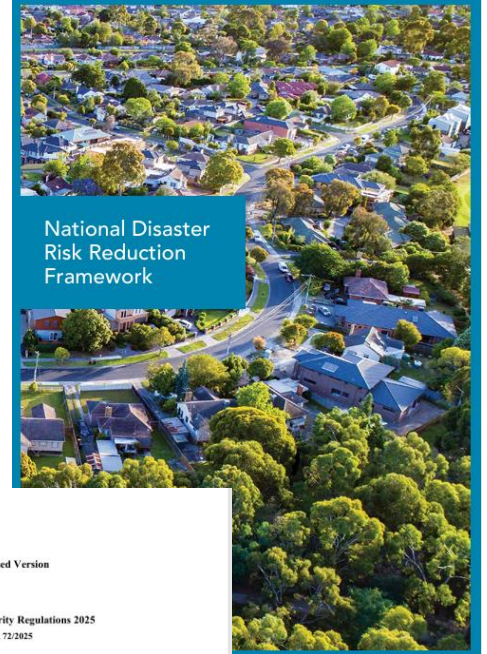
adopted on 12 December 2015 at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held on 13 December 2015. In accordance with its article 20, the Agreement was adopted at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 22 April to 15 May 2015 by regional economic integration organizations that are Parties to the Convention on Climate Change.

2nd edition Everyday Law



Stella Tarantola

THE FEDERATION PRESS



Authorised Version

Country Fire Authority Regulations 2025 S.R. No. 72/2025

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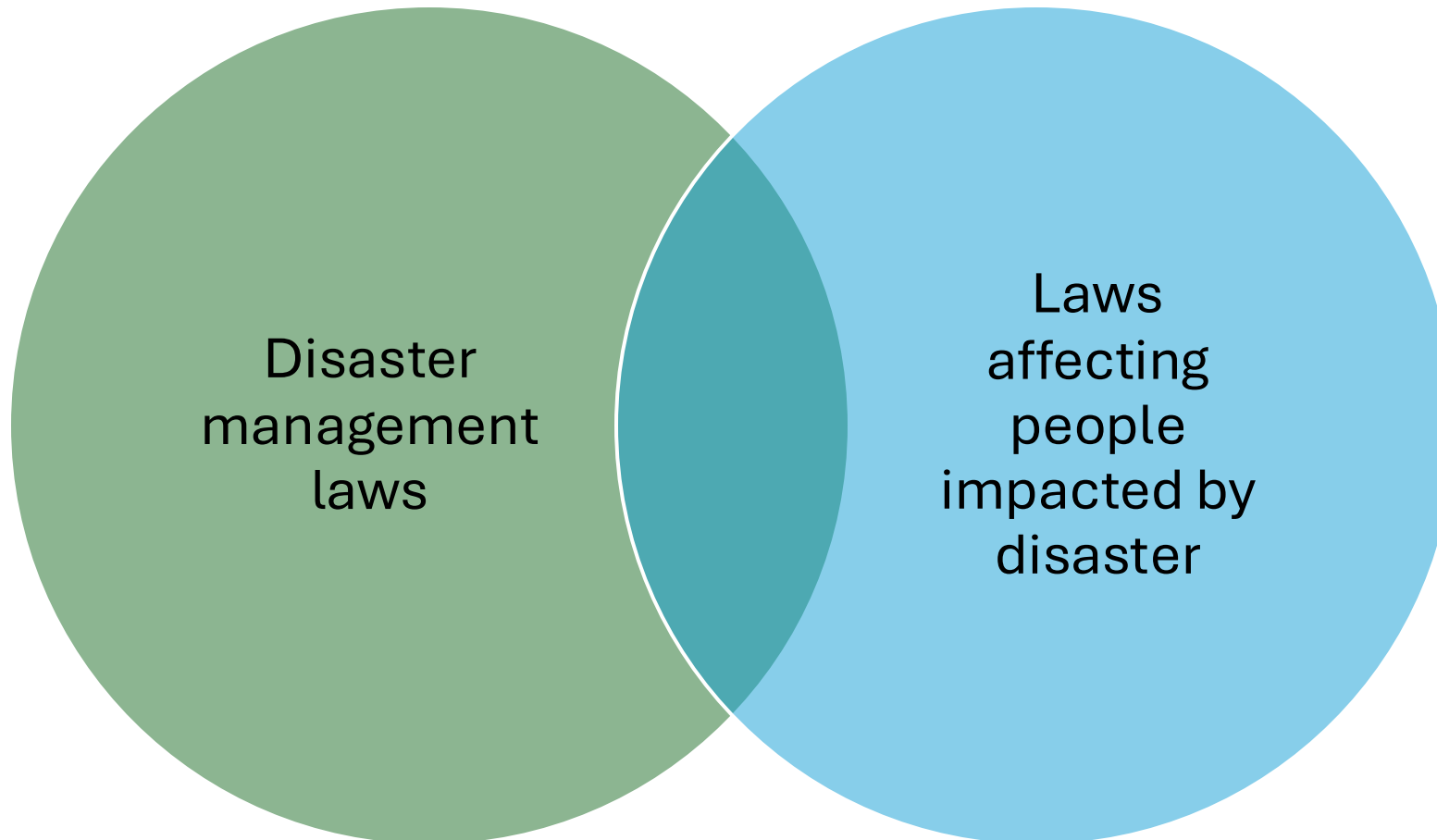
Authorised by the Chief Parliamentary Counsel



Dr Monica Taylor
School of Law, Faculty of Business & Law
Queensland University of Technology

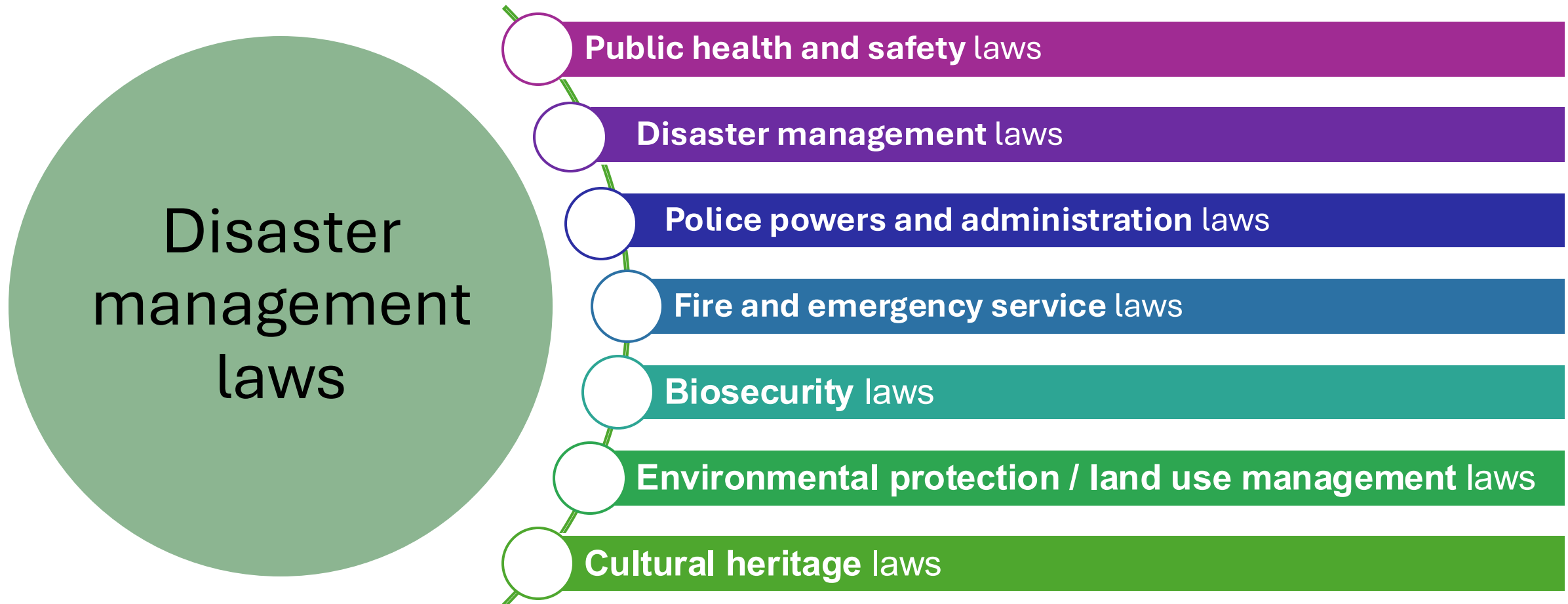


What do we mean by disasters and the law?





Laws governing disasters: many and varied



National Emergency Declaration Act 2020 (Cth)



Disasters also impact ‘everyday’ laws

Tenancy and housing laws

Insurance (house, car, property, life) laws

Domestic and family violence, and family laws

Employment, education and social security laws

Neighbourhood dispute laws

Crime and criminal procedure laws

Laws affecting
people
impacted by
disaster

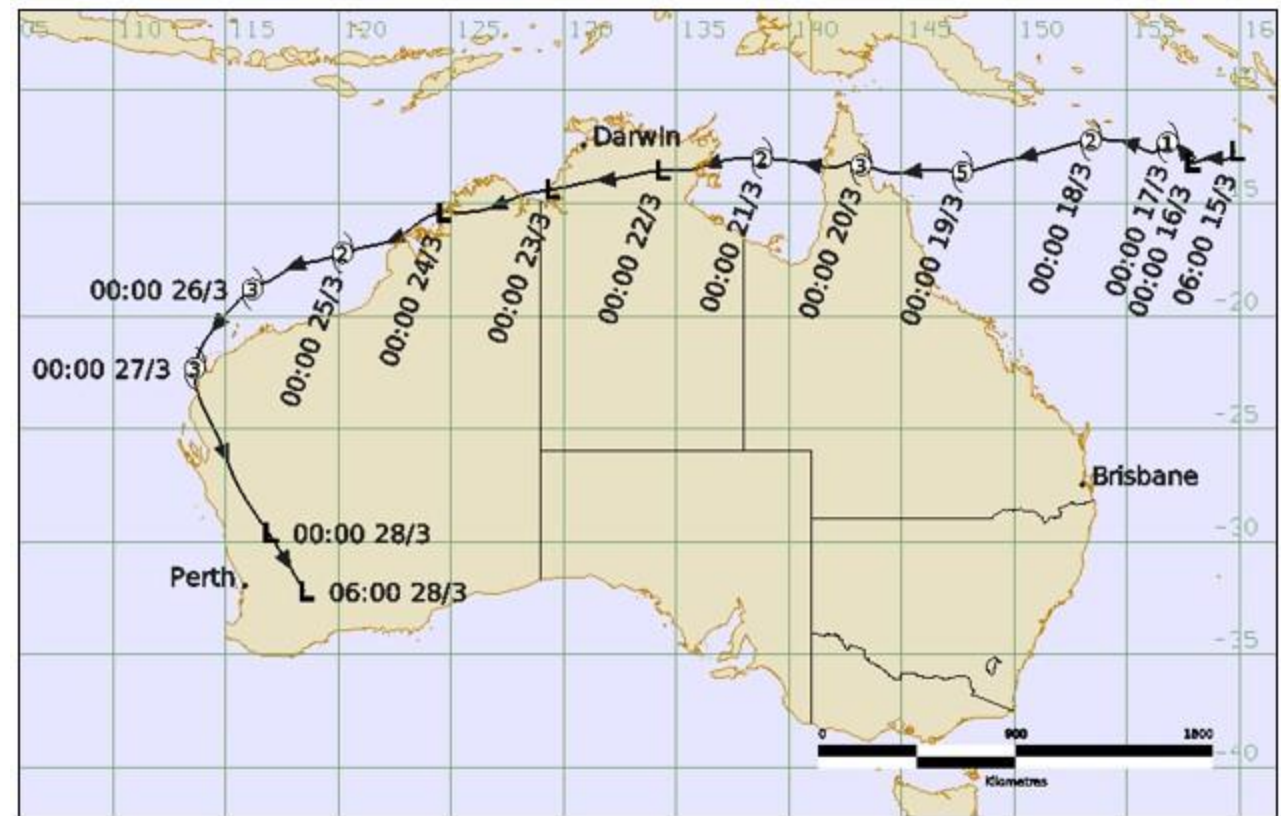
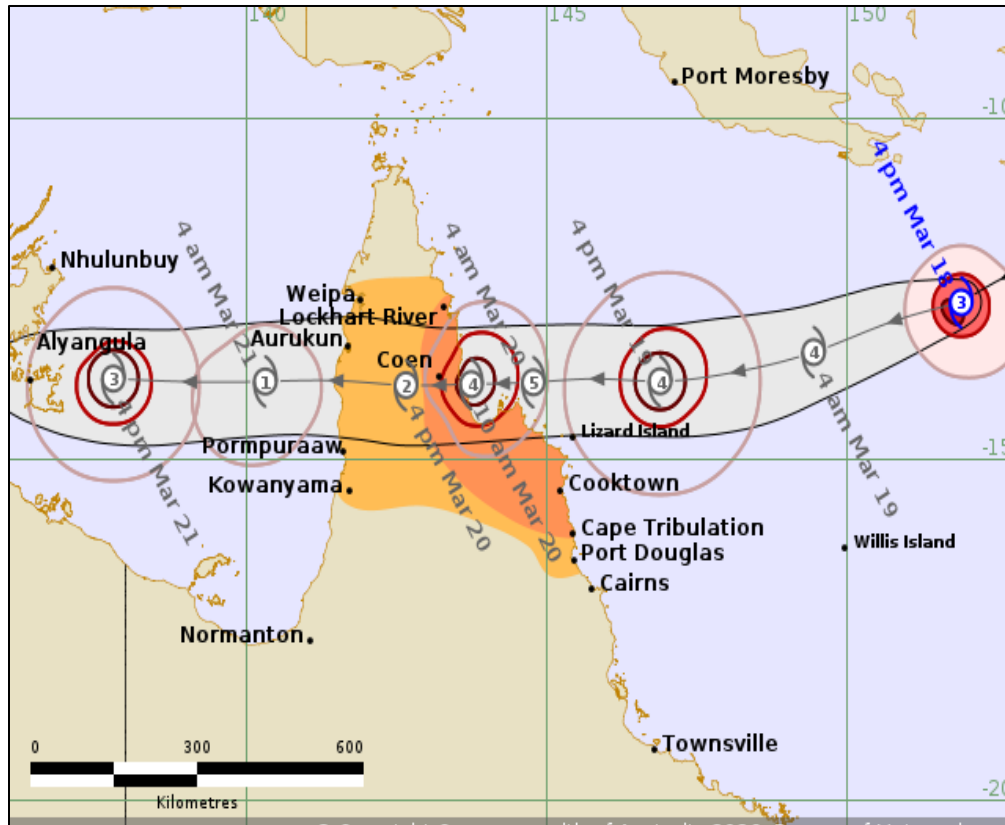
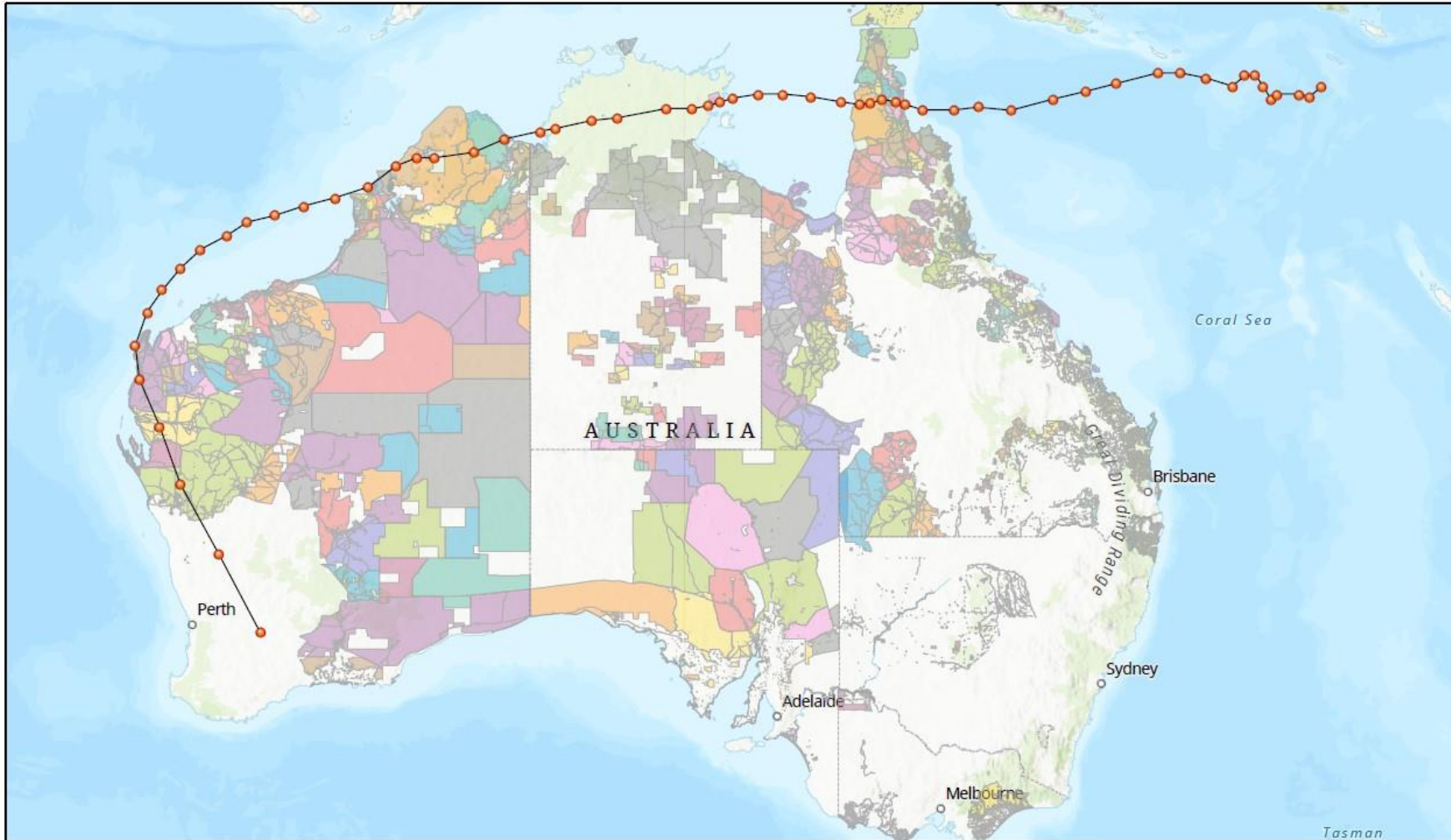


Figure 1 Best track of Severe Tropical Cyclone Narelle, 15-28 March 2026. Times are in UTC (AWST-8h, ACST-9.5h, AEST-10h).

All images thanks to The Bureau of Meteorology ©

© information from [Narelle Report](#) compiled by Tropical Cyclone Lead Team, BOM



21/7/2026



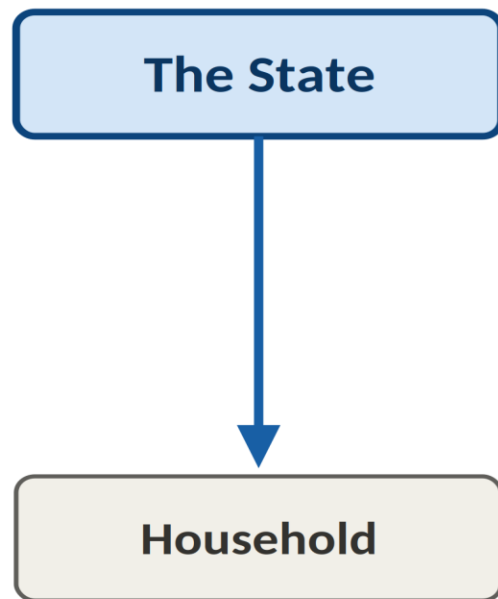
Dr Bronwyn Lay

Program Lead

Disaster Legal Help Victoria

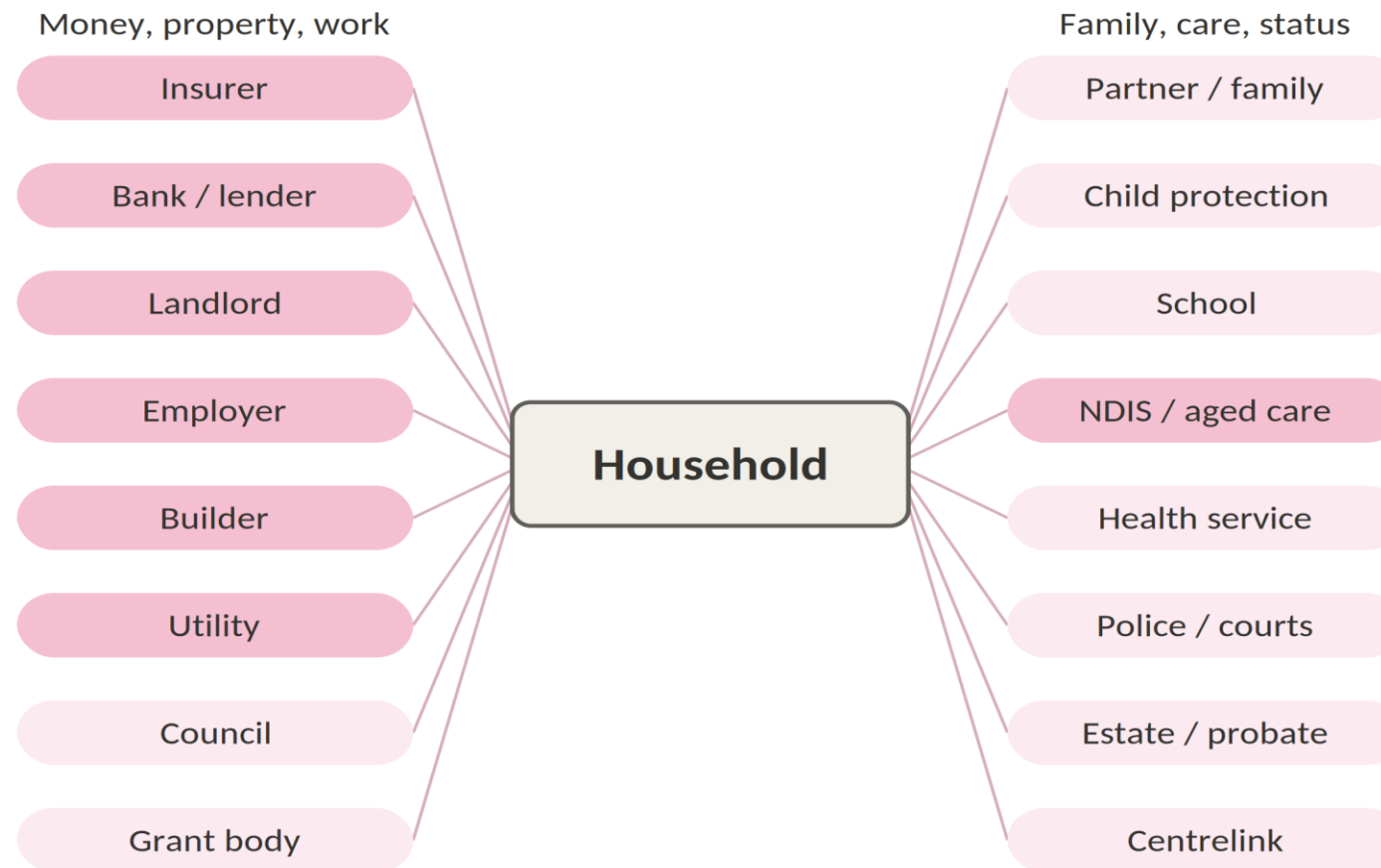


Response



One duty-bearer
Public law. Reviewable.

Recovery

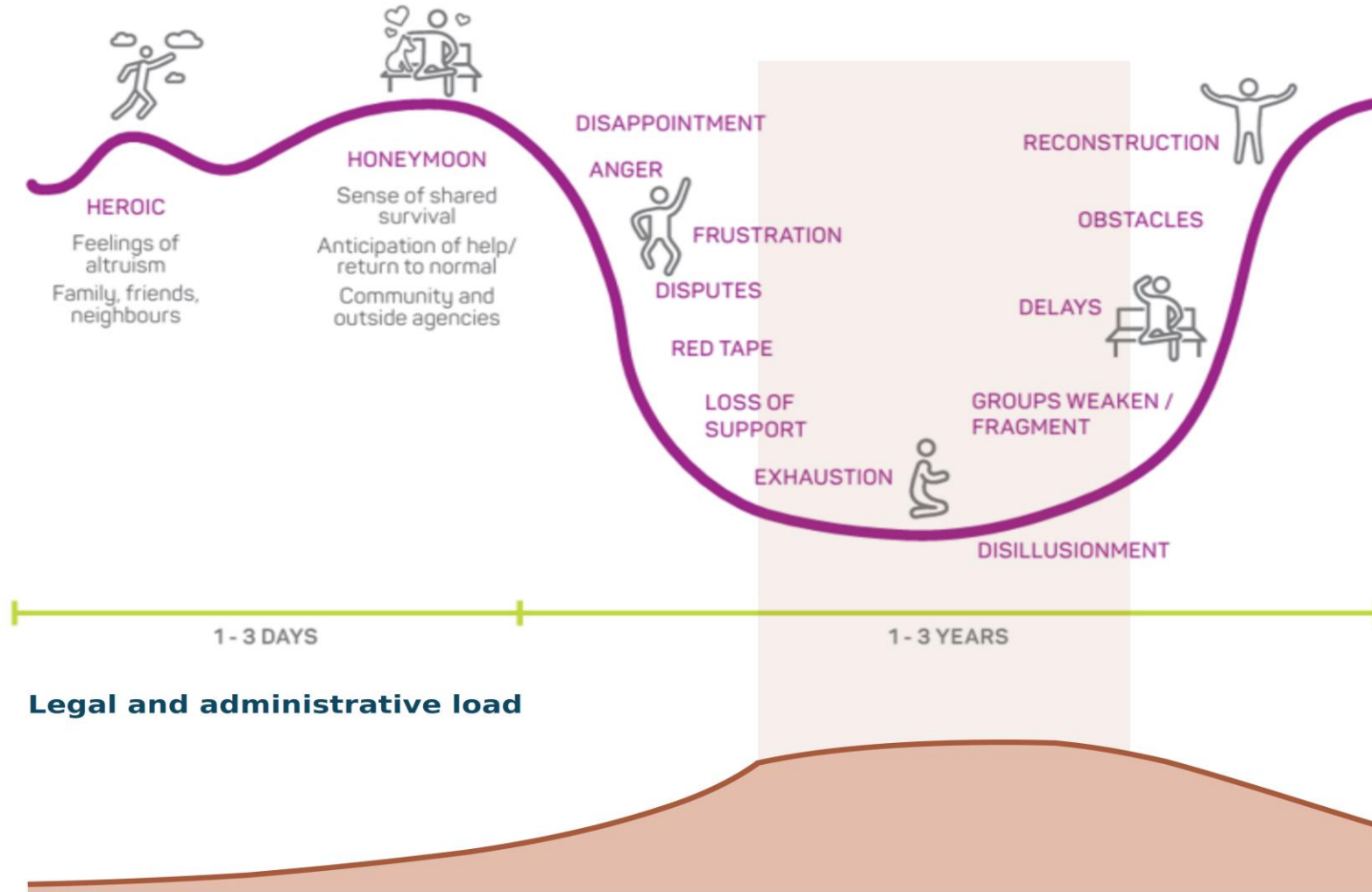


At least sixteen relationships. No line between them.

Private contract

Statutory, administrative or personal

Same household. Same event. Different legal architecture.

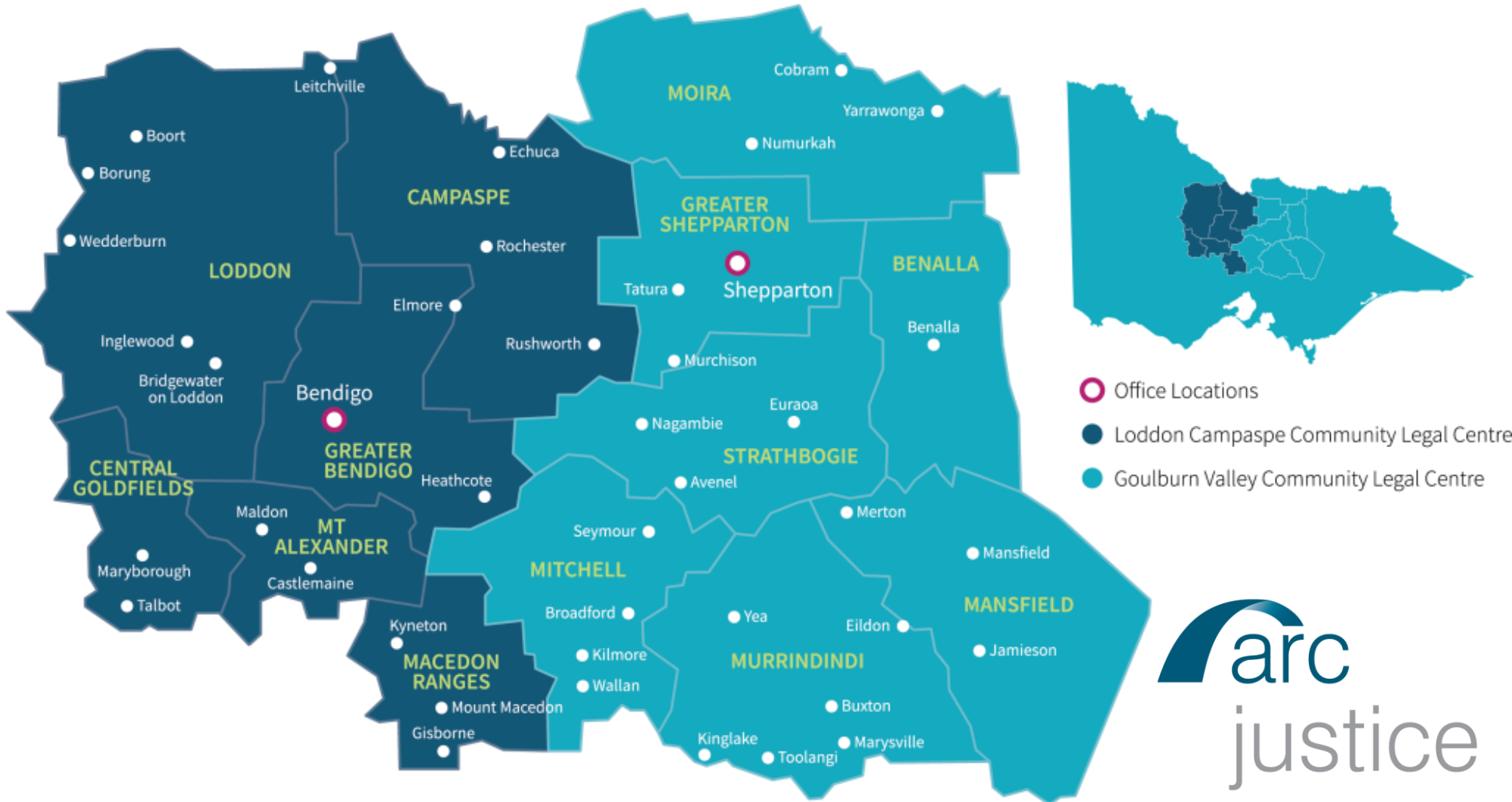


Observed correlation between recovery curve and administrative load: housing, property, review of claims, clean up, planning, land use, health rights, family law

Upper curve: AIDR Community Recovery Handbook, after Cohen & Ahearn 1980 and DeWolfe 2000.



Jack Piper Climate Justice Lead ARC Justice



After the fire: Free legal help available

ARC Justice is a community legal centre and we're supporting communities across central and northern Victoria after fires

- **Renters' rights** when homes are damaged or destroyed
- **Insurance claims** including cash settlements and disputes
- **Court access and orders** affected by fires or displacement
- **Unpaid fines and debt** or problems keeping up with payments
- **Emergency payments** where government or insurance support is delayed or denied, including Centrelink
- **Lost important documents** or identification
- **Issues with neighbours** including fencing, boundaries and fallen trees
- **Treatment at work** including unfair dismissal or denied leave entitlements
- **Other legal issues** that come up during recovery



(03) 5445-0909 | 1800 450 909
intake@arcjustice.org.au

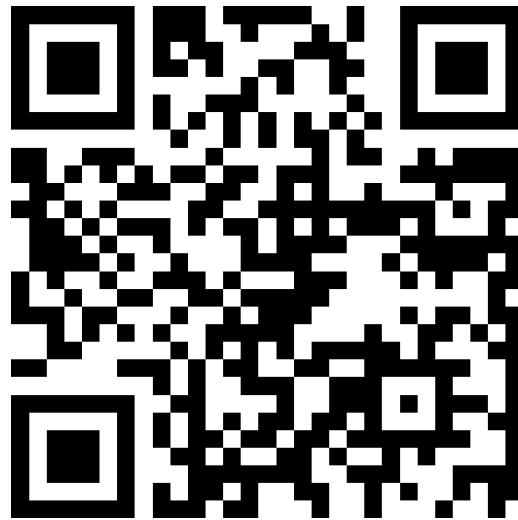


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Use Slido for Q&A



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Sunflower Room

ADRC26 is an exciting and noisy place.

The Sunflower Room is a sensory-friendly space at the conference, offering delegates with hidden disabilities a place to help rest, regulate and reset.

Please see a staff member at the registration desk if you need assistance finding it.





Thank you to the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference 2026
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