Law as a driver of social change

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What “law”

- Property (private)
- Planning (public)
What is the role of law for climate change adaptation?

- Residents
- Council employees
- Councilors
Interviews in 2011

Residents – to protect my property
Lake Macquarie – to enable long term decision making for the benefit of the community
Port Stephens – employees – to better support on the ground decision making
Port Stephens councilors – very (very) mixed...
## SLR Policy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SLR Policy Snapshot</th>
<th>QLD</th>
<th>NSW</th>
<th>VIC</th>
<th>TAS</th>
<th>SA</th>
<th>WA</th>
<th>NT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2009</strong></td>
<td>0.5m by 2050; 1m by 2100</td>
<td>0.4 by 2050; 0.9 by 2100</td>
<td>0.8m by 2100</td>
<td>No specific provisions</td>
<td>0.3m by 2050; 0.7m by 2100</td>
<td>0.38m by 2100 x Brunn multiplier</td>
<td>No provisions</td>
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<td><strong>2014</strong></td>
<td>0.8m by 2100 within flood mgmt. guidelines</td>
<td>No policy; refers to IPCC of 0.18/2050 and 0.79/2100</td>
<td>0.2m by 2050; 0.8 by 2100</td>
<td>0.2m by 2050; 0.8 by 2100</td>
<td>0.3m by 2050; 0.35-1m by 2100</td>
<td>0.9m by 2100</td>
<td>No provisions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What is the role of law?

- The notion of “the law” is complex
- It is an effective agent for social change
- BUT, challenges remain

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