#NoGoingBack

Decision making in the Climate Emergency

Carbon Neutral Cornwall

Peter Lefort – Sector & Partnerships Lead

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The risks in Cornwall

- High levels of deprivation (e.g. fuel poverty)
- Vulnerable coastline
- Seasonal changes will impact food chains
Context Doughnut Economics

Complicated
- Not simple, but understandable
- Wholly predictable
- Requires expertise

Complex
- Not fully understandable
- Reasonably predictable
- Requires perspective
Context Doughnut Economics
Cornwall Council’s decision wheel: What, why and how

Examples of committees and boards:
- Audit
- Constitution and Governance
- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Licensing
- Pensions
- Planning
- Standards

Overview and Scrutiny committees:
- Children and Families
- Customer and Support Services
- Economic Growth and Development
- Health and Adult Social Care
- Neighbourhoods

Full Council:
123 Councillors representing a number of different political groups

Leader and Cabinet:
- Leader elected annually by the full Council
- Leader chooses Cabinet Members
- Each Member has a designated portfolio of responsibilities
- Portfolio Holder delegation enables decision making without having to report to Cabinet

May 2017

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Cornwall Council’s decision wheel

What, why and how
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  - Committees comprise of 15 non-executive Members
  - Responsible for reviewing and challenging the Cabinet
  - Supports the Council in policy development
  - Committees meet six times a year
  - Statutory responsibilities include: health, flood risk management and crime and disorder

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Holding complexity and urgency

Carbon neutral journey

- Framing and facilitation role
- External stimuli (global perspective)

Multiple perspectives
- Social justice frame
- Baseline
- Ongoing monitoring
- Resilience frame
- Prosperity frame

Output

A just, thriving and resilient Cornwall
1. Everyone can live well and safely together
2. More homes and jobs for residents
3. Protect and enhance the environment

Complex
d
Complicated
Cornwall Council’s decision wheel What, why and how

“Give me one firm spot on which to stand, and I shall move the earth.”

Archimedes (probably)
Cornwall Council’s decision wheel: What, why and how

The dominance of linear short-term decision making
Cornwall Council’s decision wheel What, why and how

The dominance of linear short-term decision making

Cornwall Council’s mission and values
Cornwall Council’s decision wheel  What, why and how

The dominance of linear short-term decision making

Cornwall Council’s mission and values

E.g. The appeal of innovation; providing a process with which to navigate uncertainty

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Cornwall Council’s decision wheel What, why and how

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Introduction:

• Tool based on Donut Economics to help assess social and environmental impact of Council decisions

• Introduced as part of Cabinet decision-making process in September

• Looks at social and environmental impacts holistically and presents them in an easy access visual format to help guide debates

• CNC team is currently training key colleagues, developing templates and guidance for report writers and auditing its use in cabinet papers.

• Trialling this tool in the procurement process

The Saints Trail is designed with active travel in mind so has been given a score of 5 for the categories of air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Although land will be converted from green field in a few places, it is not all quality land and there is a full environmental impact assessment in place and mitigations planned to replace the biodiversity lost, in time.

Evidence from similar schemes shows substantial numbers of jobs created. There will also be educational signs along the trails to enable people to learn about the local historical features and environment. Although there is the possibility that opening up previously inaccessible areas of land to the public may make it possible to misuse the land, this is far outweighed by the huge health benefits and enjoyments of the local environment that will be gained by residents and visitors alike.
What’s important?
Economic growth is the default
Move from a hierarchy to a system
Prioritisation should be conscious, not unconscious

What’s unknown?
Unknown impacts are very different to no impacts
What do we need to understand to meet our values?
Ignorance should be conscious, not unconscious
Collaboration No ‘right way’

Source: UN - Sustainable Development Goals

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## Collaboration Culture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initial transition</th>
<th>Climate anxiety</th>
<th>Regenerative tourism</th>
<th>Community resilience</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Sustainable tourism charters, research into co-benefits and unintended consequences</td>
<td>Carbon audits, energy policies, resilient supply chains, through participative democracy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilitated spaces for exploration, public health policies that promote positive collective action</td>
<td>A wholesale regenerative approach (from recreation to re-creation)</td>
<td>Cultivation of imagination in place-making, climate adaptation with social justice</td>
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Collaboration Culture

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Thank you

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