

Stakeholder Input to Objective 1 of Choosing Regional Futures: Development of the Deliberation Matrix process

The Choosing Regional Futures programme has undertaken a number of activities to explore plausible futures for the Waikato region. These activities included information from the Waikato Choosing Futures initiative that developed the region's long term community council plan including well beings that the regional community want. Also Environment Waikato commissioned a "Futurist" Kate Delaney to work with a group of community members to develop four scenarios for the region. Summaries of these scenarios can be found on www.choosingfutures.co.nz/index.asp?pageID=2145837126

The Choosing Regional Futures project is now enter another stage in the development of a process that would allow community stakeholders to evaluate, deliberate and choose policies that will address regional issues that the community wants to prepare for.

We would like to invite you to participate in developing and trialling the deliberation process over the next eighteen months. The following is the process that we would like you to participate in.

1. Build the issue

Many of you will have participated in the scenario building sessions with Kate Delaney. Here 4 plausible futures were developed for the Waikato. They were summarised (See link above). Following on from this Tim Barnard and Susan Bates from SCION ran a workshop that tested the validity of the scenarios and identified the common themes that emerged across the scenarios. The Waikato region will have to plan and be prepared for the eventuation of all these themes irrespective of the future that unfolds. Survival tactics were also identified to prepare for these plausible futures. This document is available on the choosing futures web site www.choosingfutures.co.nz/index.asp?pageID=2145837126

The next stage of the process is to 'build up' an issue that has emerges from our exploration of plausible futures so that we can develop strategies for addressing this issue. We will use the scenario themes to identify and build the issue for exploration.

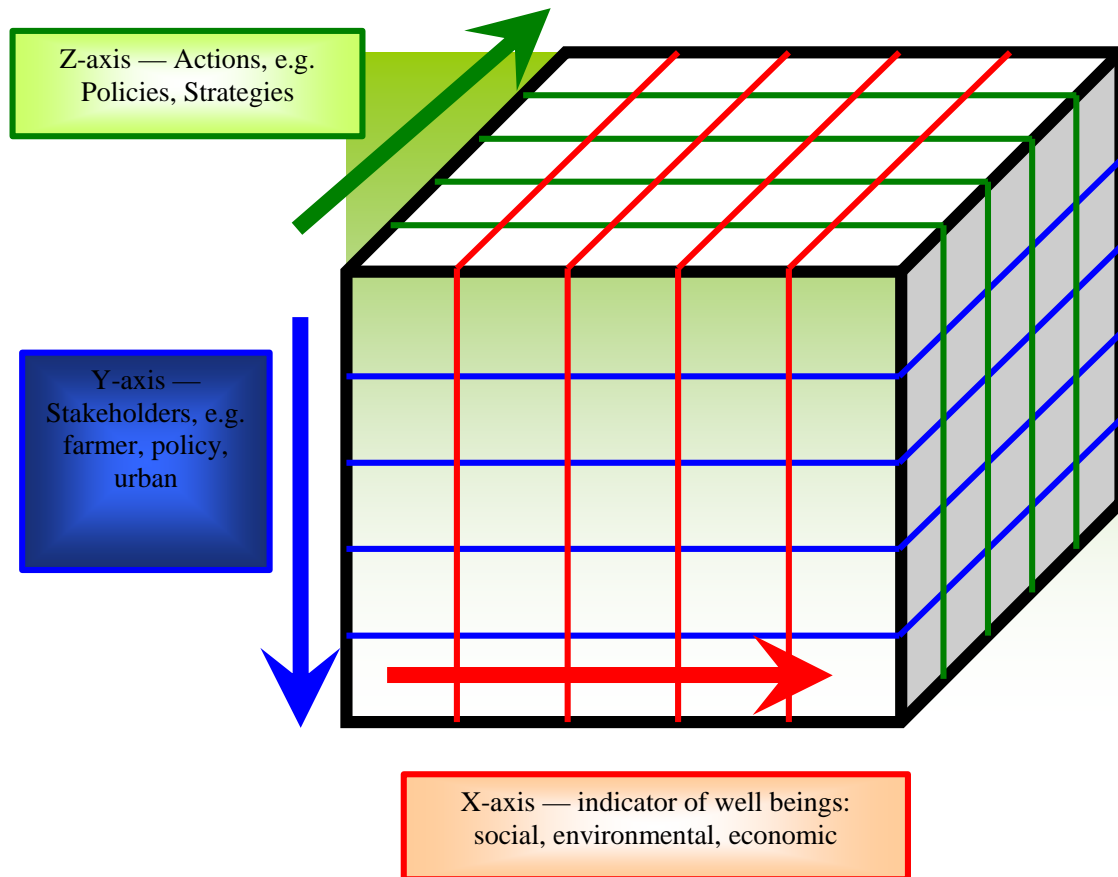
We will then identify the stakeholder groups who are impacted by the issue and by the impact of the strategy.

We will identify strategies to address the issue and these will be evaluated for their impact using a set of indicators.

2. Organise the deliberation

The figure below describes the Deliberation Matrix. We will identify strategies that will address the issue (Z- axis) and the people (stakeholders) (y- axis) who are affected by the issue and impacted by the strategies, as outlined in building the issue.

Each of the stakeholder groups will identify indicators that they believe are the most critical for measuring the impact of the strategies against. They will choose five indicators to represent each of three well beings (social, environmental and economic (x-axis). The indicators can be drawn from individual experience and can also be chosen from a list of indicators derived from national and international sources including those developed for the Waikato regions LTCCP. We will provide access to this inventory.



In the first instance each stakeholder group will state whether the strategy benefits or harms each of the indicators and the reasons for the choice are recorded. The judgements will be made in comparison to the status quo.

A colour is then assigned to each indicator box that corresponds to the overall aggregate of 5 indicators. Red means the strategy is unacceptable for the range of indicators, Yellow states a mid way point and green represents an acceptable strategy impact.

The process allows for each stakeholder to declare in a transparent way their choice of indicators and their evaluation of the strategy. This allows all the stakeholders to hear each others point of view. As the deliberation proceeds there is an opportunity to choose another set of indicators and to modify the strategy for re-evaluation.

If greater accuracy is required over and above the benefit/ harm statements then a qualitative use of the indicators can be explored. When this occurs we will look to the SDSS to provide the parameters for the indicators.

We would like to explore a number of different issues with associated strategies, stakeholders and indicators. We would therefore like to keep you connected with the project as we trial the process of building the issue and deliberating the impact of strategies to address the issue.

An Example:

The issue: Grid lock traffic at peak school opening and closing causes significant traffic delays

Strategy: Supply school buses

Stakeholders:

Parents of school children

Members of the business community

Land Transport planners

Stakeholders	Social indicators	Environmental indicators	Economic indicators
Parents	Child safety Parent/child time Time Parent responsibility Y Convenience	Co2 emissions Air Quality	Cost of travel
Business community	Flexible working hours Customer satisfaction Attractive working environment	Co2 emissions	
Transport planners	Road safety Community harmony Time Congestion Car Park facilities Equity of choice	Co2 emissions Land under asphalt	Cost of buses Reduced road maintenance Reduced fuel costs

How the stakeholders come to these conclusions is noted and the deliberation conversation recorded and changes to judgments and positions recorded. This part of the process is about mutual learning and capturing those learnings to assist with policy strategy development.