SCENARIO PLANNING QUADRANT

THE SCENARIO PLANNING QUADRANT TOOL HELPS YOU TO CREATE SCENARIOS IN ORDER TO EXPLORE A VARIETY OF POSSIBLE FUTURES BEFORE MAKING CHOICES ABOUT A PREFERRED FUTURE

How to use the tool:

1 Draw two intersecting lines to make four quadrants. Each quadrant will be used to represent a different possible future.

2 Identify the important things that influence the issue you are exploring. The work that you did using the explore tools will help you to do this.

3 Select two things that could be done to bring about change. For example, these could be the two factors that are your points of leverage from the Connections Circle tool.

4 Label the vertical line with one thing you might change and the horizontal line with the other.

5 Add a + sign to the top of the vertical line and a - sign at the bottom. Next, add a + sign to the right hand side of the horizontal line and a - sign to the left hand side. The + signs represent an increase in the thing you are proposing to change and the - signs represent a decrease or no change.

6 You will have now created four quadrants which represent four possible futures.

7 In each quadrant use post-it notes to describe each possible scenario.

8 Describe each possible future by writing down all the features (good and bad) that you imagine would happen. As you explore each possible future think about the benefits, risks, opportunities and drawbacks involved.

9 Give each possible future a name be creative and have fun.

10 After completing the descriptions in all four quadrants, indicate which one of these four possible futures is your preferred future.

NXTHINKING

This tool can help you to think about a number of possible futures as you create and explore different scenarios

It helps you to consider the positive and negative features – social, economic, environmental and technical – of your projected scenarios. It can also help you to think about a preferred future.

Thinking about Change

Thinking about The Future

Adapted from work with Shell

> **It made me realise that the future is not fixed. There are many different ways the future might unfold... and I can help to shape it.**