

Social Dreaming Script

Adapted from Cassie Robinson's "Service Design in Gov Talk" accessible here:

<https://cassierobinson.medium.com/service-design-in-gov-talk-march-2020-5378327fbeece>

Before we start

Go with it, trust your instincts & imagination, don't overthink it.

Place your feet firmly on the floor

Collectively let's take 3 breaths together – slowly

If you are comfortable with closing your eyes, I invite you to close your eyes.

Script

We are going to travel, in our imaginations, to 2050.

(2050 – this is within our lifetimes. Maybe within our working lives.)

But this is not the 2050 of the dystopia we can quite easily imagine, but rather a place we hear far less of, the 2050 that turned out OK. In fact, it turned out brilliantly. I invite you to imagine that the years between now and then are a time of remarkable social transformation, which was unimaginable in early 2020.

I invite you to imagine that a cascade of change was unleashed, some triggered by crises like the Covid-19 Pandemic that reset our patterns of work and travel and showed us how much communities can come together and how our habits of consumption could be broken and we can live in ways that allow individuals and communities to thrive.

Other change has been triggered by Extinction Rebellion, School Strikes for Climate, Black Lives Matter and other local but connected projects and movements across the globe, so that a momentum has now built up and is unstoppable.

The pressure for this positive change has come from business, from philanthropists, from government, from local government from communities, from schools and local health teams. A hunger for a new culture has built and spread rapidly after a few global crises jolted us into the collaborative action we needed.

Cities have been reimagined, and new relationships exist between rural communities and their nearest towns. City centres have completely new uses, with huge amounts of space opening up. There is more equal access to the places, support and types of environment that keep us and our communities healthy and well. We're learning new ways to live and care for ourselves that honour the natural world around us.

The change that's unfolded has been underpinned by social, climate and racial justice, community involvement and empowerment, and has been focused on building a new, just, diverse, more resilient economy from the ground up. It's been 30 years characterised by remarkable change that future generations will sing great songs about, and tell great tales about the courageous and focused people of this time. It's a time when we feel we've been doing everything we could possibly have done.

Take your imaginations for a walk through the streets, the public spaces, the local health and wellbeing centres, the village community, the High Streets, the online spaces, the city centres, parliament, a community space, a factory, a workplace, the local park, a housing estate, a food production centre, a power plant... of this 2050 of your imagining.

Use all your senses, what can you see..... Feel.....touch... smell.....hear.... taste of this future world?

Stay in that moment.

Now you can open your eyes, and I invite you to describe what you saw, to draw or to write, or both, something of what you imagined. The essence of it. Something specific from it. It could be as simple as a word.