

SDinGov2022
30th September, Edinburgh

Rehearsing Sustainable Futures: Critical Service Design to tackle highly complex challenges with local actors

Lara Salinas, Marion Lagedamont, Tom Taylor

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ual:



THE SHARED
COMPOST
MACHINE
COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND

↑
Swing

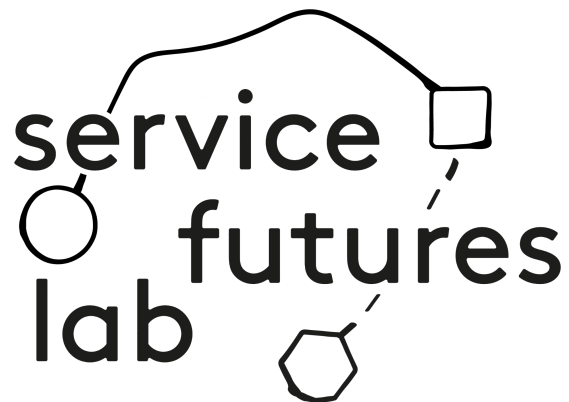
← bug hotel

↑
Flowers





Who are we?

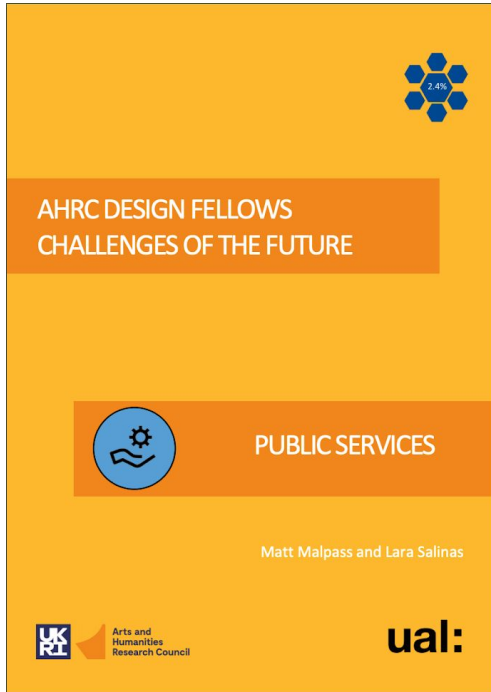


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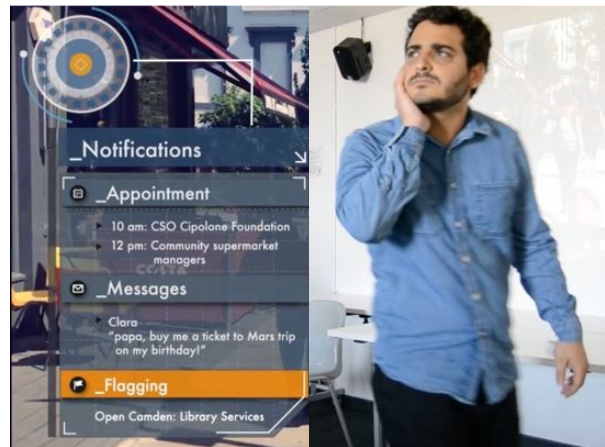
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Anticipatory innovation



[2020 AHRC Challenges of the Future: Public Services](#)
[Anticipatory innovation through speculative service design](#)

Anticipatory innovation



[2018 Future of Government 2030+ | European Commission + EU Policy Lab | Jessica Venø + Mateus Machado et al.](#)

2019 Pharma Factory | Horizon 2020
Yasmeen Bazan et al.

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Design Museum and AHRC launch national net zero research programme



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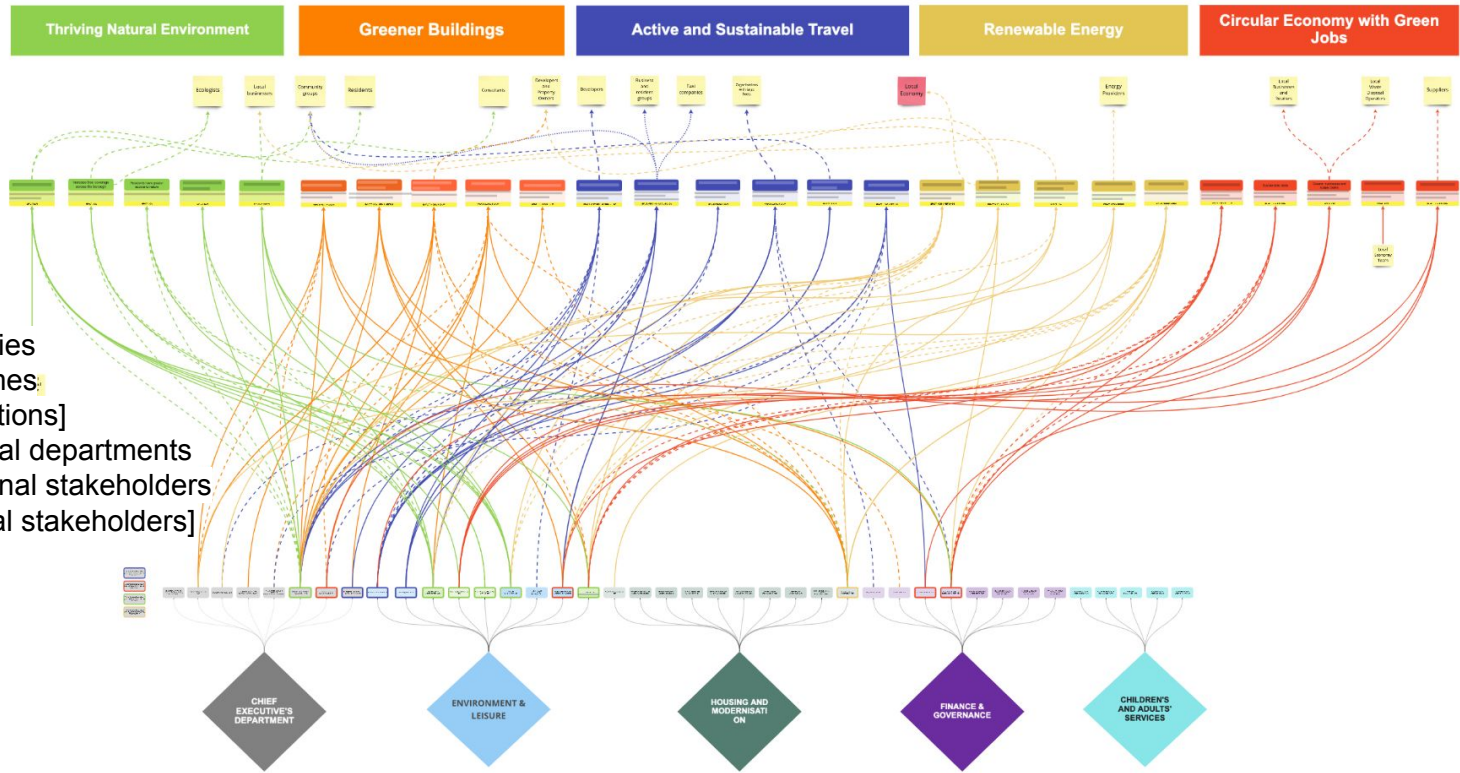
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Climate Emergency | Net Zero by 2030



5 priorities
 26 themes
 [150 actions]
 5 internal departments
 40 internal stakeholders
 [external stakeholders]

Climate Emergency | Net Zero by 2030

Local gov are responsible for a small percentage of a borough's direct carbon emissions

How might local gov actively involve all actors of society in a green transition?

Sustainability requires radically new ways of living

How might local gov think creatively about the future when there is so little scope to experiment and innovate?

Critical Service Design

is about **designing fictional services** to explore **alternative future worlds**

is **NOT** about solving present-day problems

is **NOT** about predicting the future

is about **radical creativity**

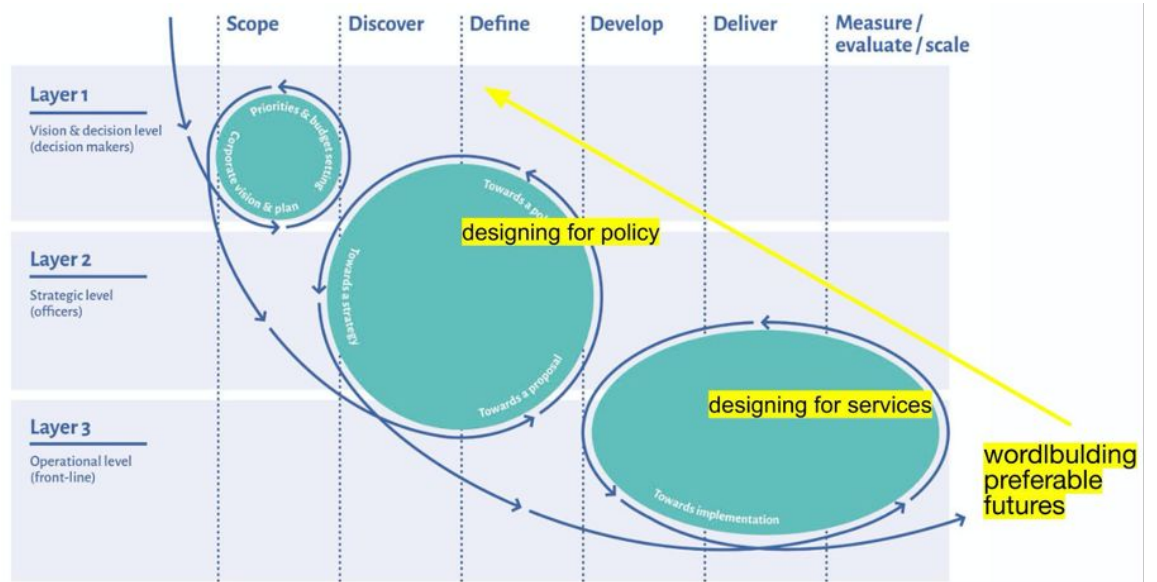
is about **transitioning to better futures**

Three steps

1. Reframing local gov objectives

2. World-building preferable futures

3. Backcasting



(Salinas, 2022)

Rules of the game

We are all designers and local officers

We are creative and determined to making the impossible possible.


This is our city, where we live and work

We work together in a local gov

It is 2030

Our city is a carbon neutral city

Today, we will build a model of our city, to tell the world how we made it



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