

WORKING WITH THE SCENARIOS

Introduction

At the end of the scenario validation workshop, G-SWAG members voted on a range of strategic questions about the scenarios.

Ash asked G-SWAG members to review all four scenarios and to identify which one they felt to be

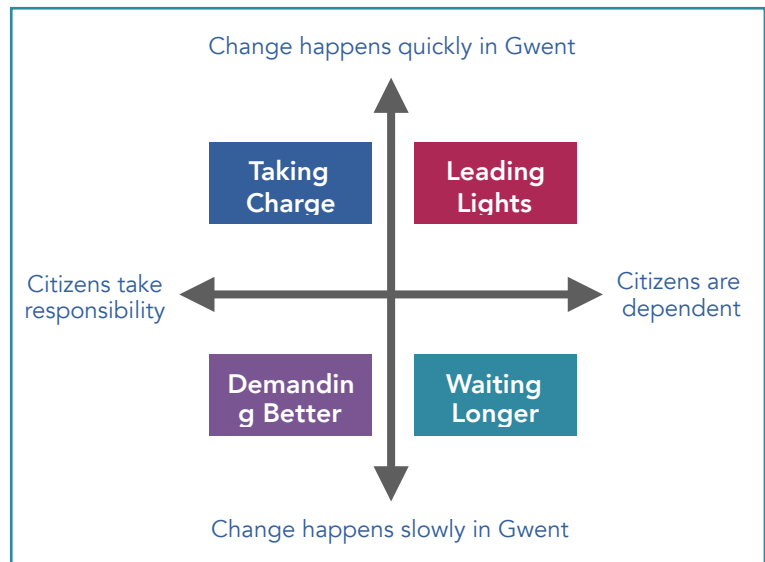
- Most plausible
- Most favourable for UK plc
- Most favourable for society
- Most favourable to Gwent
- Closest to now
- Closest to the future that individuals personally hope for
- Closest to the future that each member's individual organisation is currently preparing to deliver services in
- Closest to the future than demands the most change in local government
- Closest to the future that government policy is creating (both UK and Welsh governments)

The results of the vote are set out in the table below and analysed on page 25.

Which scenario is...	Taking Charge	Leading Lights	Waiting Longer	Demanding Better
Most plausible?	0	6	3	2
Most favourable for UK plc?	3	7	1	0
Most favourable for society?	5	1	0	5
Most favourable to Gwent?	4	1	0	6
Closest to now	0	4	7	0
Closest to the future that you personally hope for?	7	0	0	4
Closest to the future that your Council is currently preparing to deliver services in?	2	3	3	3
Closest to the future than demands most change in local government?	8	1	0	2
Closest to the future that Welsh government policy is creating?	0	9	1	1
Closest to the future that UK government policy is creating?	2	3	2	4

The vote suggests that

- Just over half the group believe that **Leading Lights** is the most plausible scenario...
- (although nearly half the group think that other scenarios are more plausible)
- Most of the group also believe that **Leading Lights** is the scenario closest to the future that Welsh government policy is creating
- **Leading Lights** is not, however, a scenario that is favourable for society or for Gwent



- The scenarios that most people believe are most favourable to Gwent - and that everyone aspires to personally - are the two scenarios where citizens take greater responsibility for their well being: **Taking Charge** and **Demanding Better**
- These scenarios - and particularly **Taking Charge** - demand the most change from public service providers. Just over half the group believe that their public service organisations are planning for the *status quo* (ie reflecting now) rather than planning for change
- Strikingly and perhaps **most fundamentally** - there is no consensus over which future public service organisations are currently preparing to deliver services in. This suggests a lack of clarity at best and a lack of purpose at worst
- In other words, public services are not perceived to be working with a single shared view of the future
- Participants do not have a shared sense of the direction of travel of UK government policy - but agree that there is little alignment between the two administrations.

The vote is a diagnostic device rather than a robust analytical tool and there is a high degree of subjectivity in how participants respond to it. Nevertheless, it provides some important insights into participants' perception of what is strategically important; and into the degree of strategic alignment within G-SWAG and between the various public service providers. We recommend that G-SWAG discuss this analysis further.
