SYSTEMIC

The problems we face today, such as climate change, inequality and aging populations cannot be fixed by one department alone. They require a systems approach.

This is a game for policymakers to explore how taking a systemic approach can unlock intractable issues in their policy areas.

WHAT DOES THE GAME INVOLVE?

To play, gather a policy team or people who are involved in a system that you want to explore. The game has three rounds:

- ROUND 1 gives players an experience of the current rules of their system
- ROUND 2 gives players a way to re-imagine the purpose of their system to create a unifying, shared vision
- ROUND 3 helps players to begin exploring system level changes that could be made

After every round, players will take part in a facilitated discussion to explore component parts of their systems. Specifically, players will discuss how purpose, relationships, resource flows and power operate within current and future systems.

WHY PLAY SYSTEMIC?

- 1. Discover systems change frameworks and how they might support your work
- 2. Learn about the underlying features of our current systems, which often go unconsidered/unchecked
- 3. Experiment with changing your systems in a safe, simulated environment (a game!)

HOW TO PLAY ...

- 1. Gather a group of 6-10 people for 2.5 4 hours.
- 2. Nominate a facilitator to read this guide and set up the game (or invite Policy Lab to facilitate your game)
- 3. Print materials
- 4. Play!

PRINTABLE MATERIALS...

- 1. Facilitator's guide
- 2. Game pieces
- 3. Player journal (one required per player)

References: The game rounds are based around Bill Sharpe's Three Horizons framework and the discussion draws on Building Better Systems, by Jennie Winhall and Charles Leadbeater.

