What can hold us back?

Design-led approaches can be perceived as taking longer and requiring more resources.

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What can hold us back?

Gaining funding for something without clear outcomes and outputs, design doesn't specify solutions and outcomes at the outset, they emerge through the process.

What can hold us back?

Design approaches not perceived as legitimate or rigorous. The difference between design, co-design and research not being well understood.

Open Practices: lessons from co-design of public services for behaviour change, Dilemmas of co-design O'Rafferty, DeEyto, Lewis, 2016

What can hold us back?

The risk of a co-design process being followed, but recommendations and outputs being (or perceived as being) ignored or bypassed.

What can hold us back?

A lack of flexibility in procurement and funding to support adaptive approaches or prototyping in practice.

What can hold us back?

Co-design and design initiatives not being part of the “policy innovation system” - so insights and data are not shared or channeled into the policy cycle.

Open Practices: lessons from co-design of public services for behaviour change, Dilemmas of co-design O’Rafferty, DeEyto, Lewis, 2016

What can hold us back?

A bias towards quantitative data. Lived experience is not perceived as evidence in conventional policy and service development.

Exploring Policy Innovation: Tools, Techniques + Approaches, Brookfield Institute for innovation and entrepreneurship, 2018

What can hold us back?

The public is usually only consulted once options are developed.

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What can hold us back?

Design approaches may reinforce mono cultural and euro-centric neo-liberal values that can be embedded within them.

The promise of Co-design for Public Policy - Emma Blomkamp, Australian Journal for Public Administration, 2018

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What can hold us back?

Working with unknowns and testing out ideas that are “unproven” is considered too risky, especially when there is risk of media attention.

What can hold us back?

Although policy aims to be evidence-based it is driven by political mandates - even if insights from design become part of the policy channel, it depends on alignment to with “windows of opportunity”.

Exploring Policy Innovation: Tools, Techniques + Approaches, Brookfield Institute for innovation and entrepreneurship, 2018

What can hold us back?

Individual, localised insights and place-based knowledge and perspectives perceived as too specific for ‘population level’ public policy.

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What can hold us back?

Confusion over the terms relating to design, mis-use of terms, looseness of their application and inflated or unsubstantiated claims about impact creating skepticism.

The promise of Co-design for Public Policy, Emma Blomkamp - Australian Journal for Public Administration, 2018

What can hold us back?

Bad design and co-design practice reducing trust in the process.

The promise of Co-design for Public Policy, Emma Blomkamp - Australian Journal for Public Administration, 2018

What can hold us back?

The greater coordination resources required to be successful in co-design, due to the increased number of inputs, people, agendas involved.

The promise of Co-design for Public Policy, Emma Blomkamp - Australian Journal for Public Administration, 2018

What can hold us back?

Organisations and institutes unwilling or unable to share control in terms of the process, goals, decision-making and outcomes necessary for co-design.

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What can hold us back?

A lack of skill, motivation or mandate to work in safe, enabling, participatory or culturally grounded ways with diverse groups of people.

What can hold us back?

Current structures that don't support genuine collaboration. Co-design means working "side by side" towards a mutual outcome. But status quo is passing things along "first me then you."

Three things I've learned about design. Alex Chesterfield, Brilliant Minds Blog, 2018

What can hold us back?

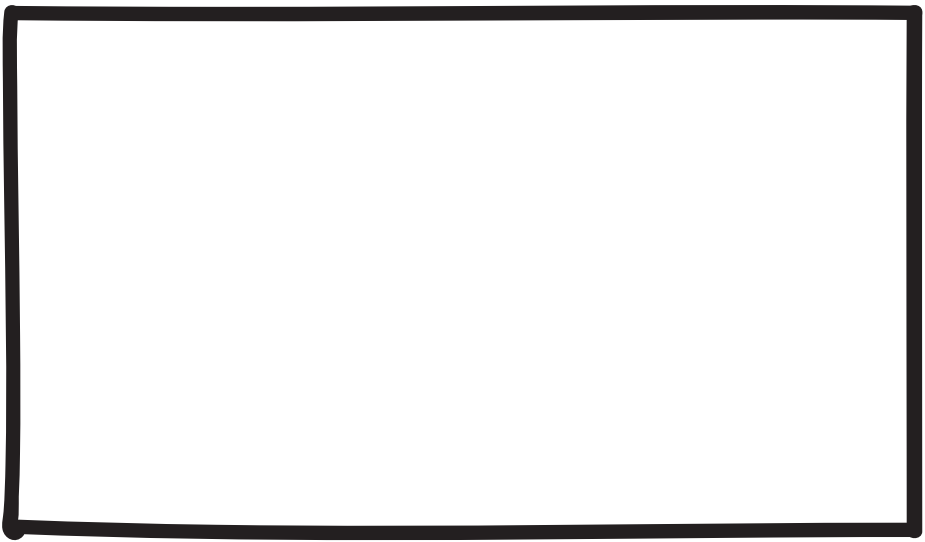
Little room to “challenge the brief” in terms of how the policy problem (and at times solution) has been defined.

Exploring Policy Innovation: Tools, Techniques + Approaches, Brookfield Institute for innovation and entrepreneurship, 2018

What can hold us back?

Co-design being interpreted as meaning “asking people what they want” - or setting up blue sky visions that can’t be delivered on.

What can hold us back?



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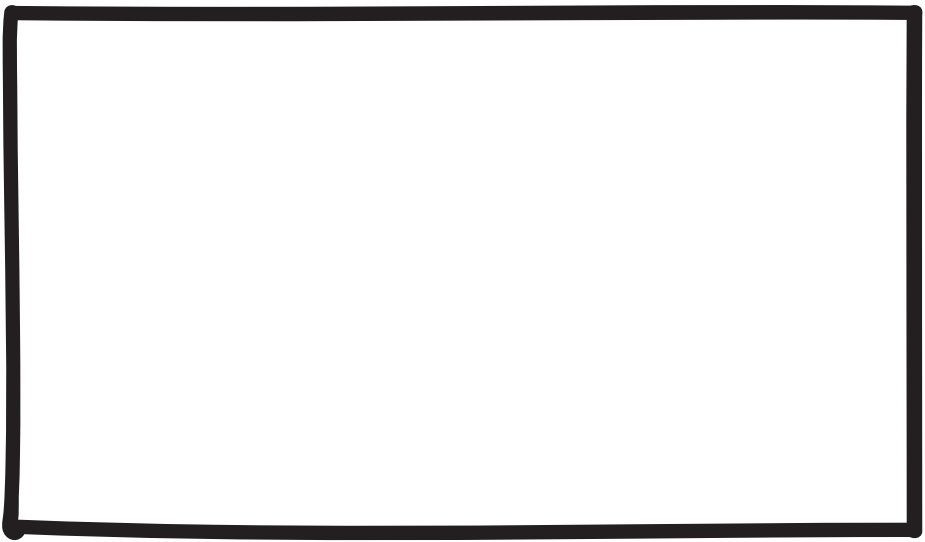

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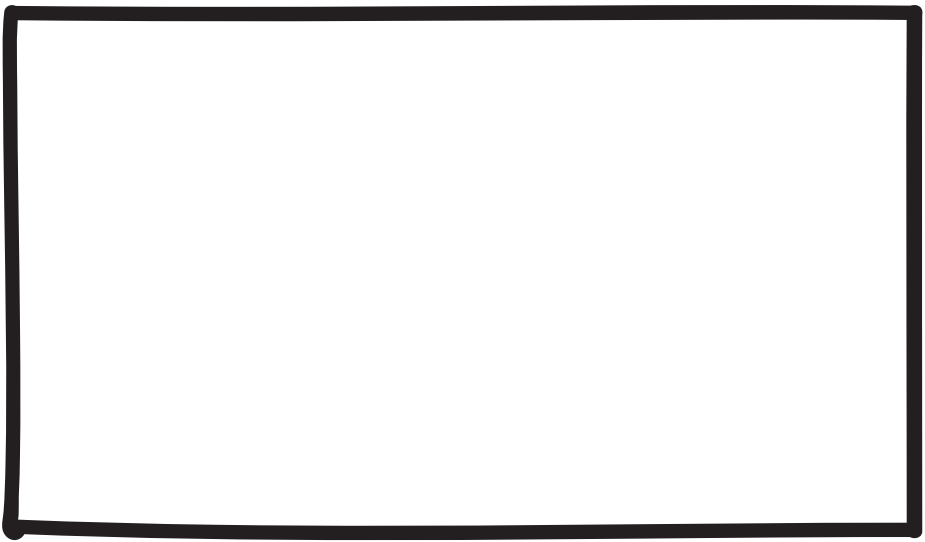

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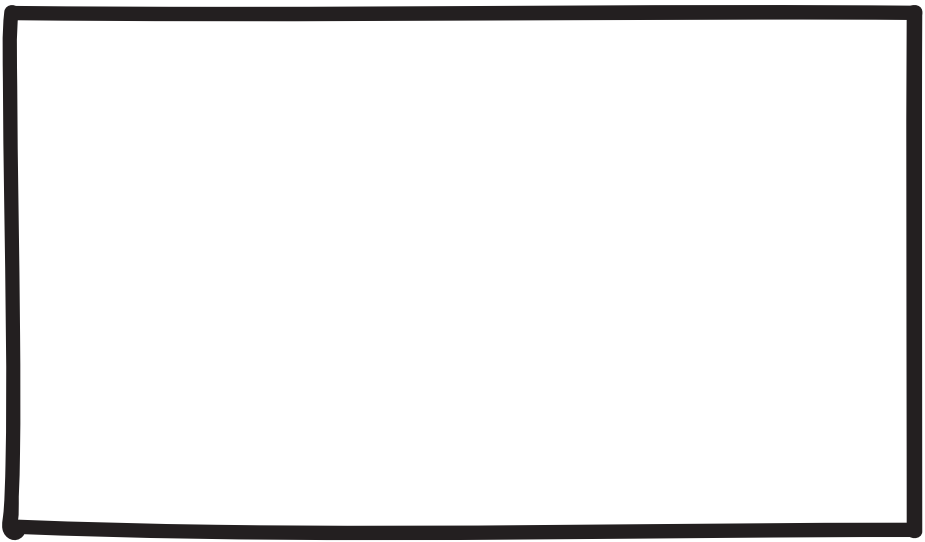

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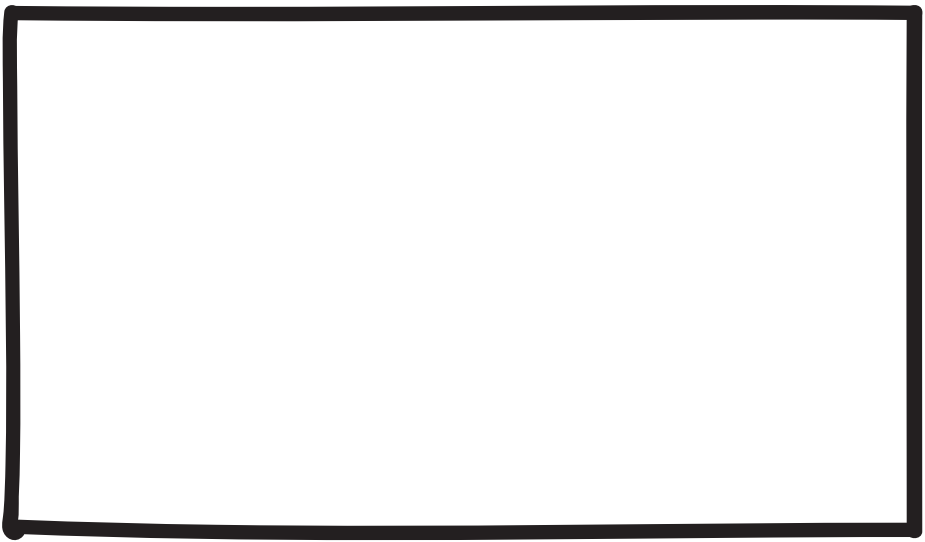

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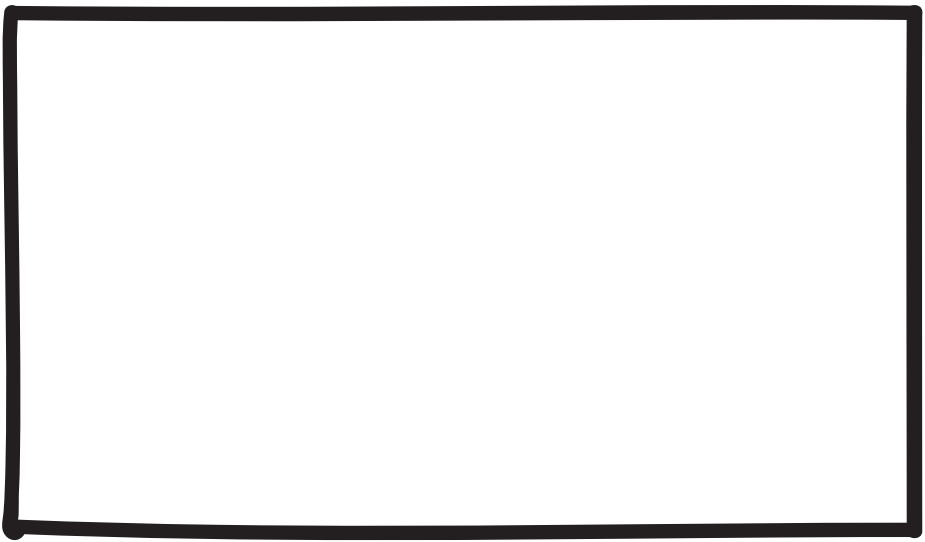

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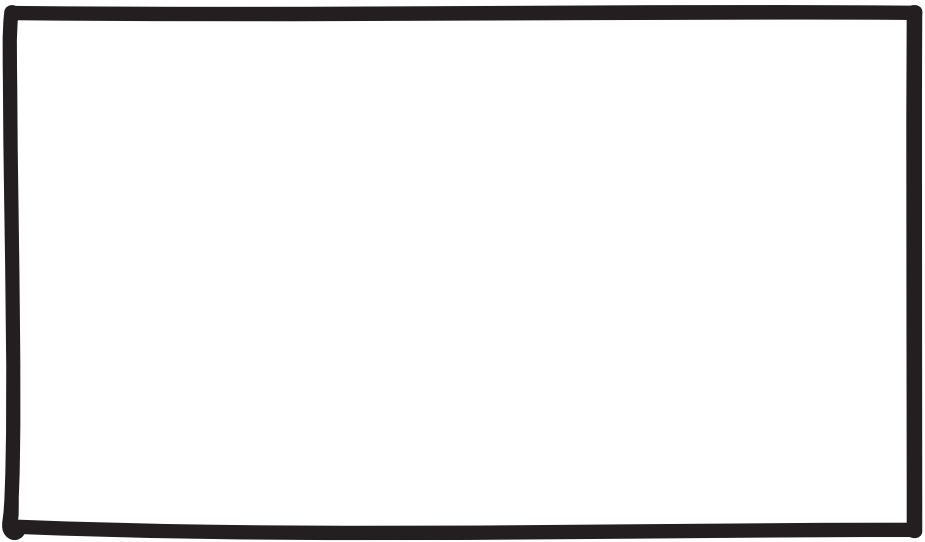

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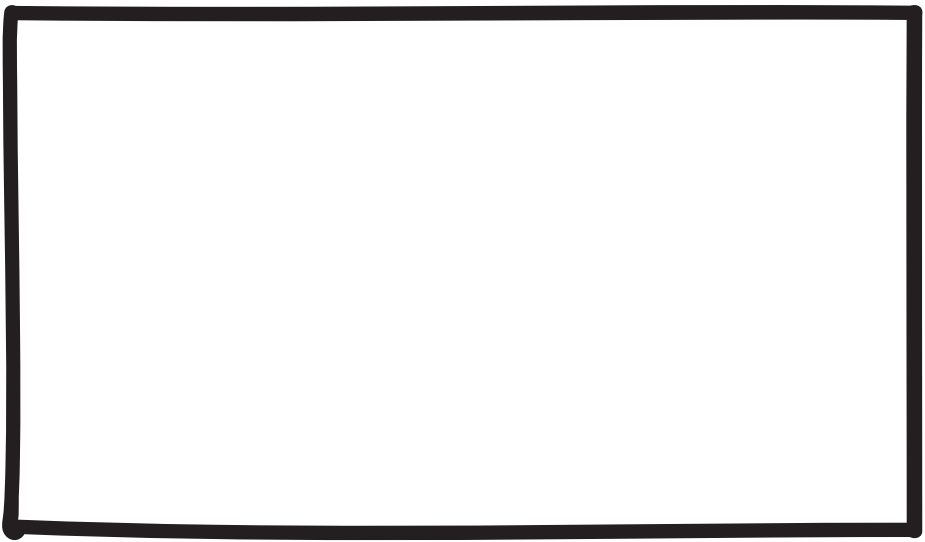

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