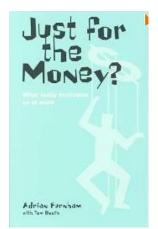
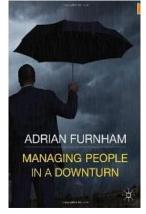
# Managing in Difficult times

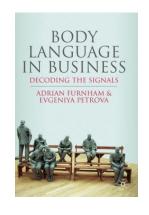
Adrian Furnham
Professor of Psychology
University College London

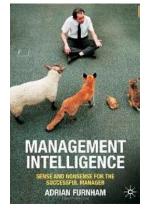
# The Happy Academic

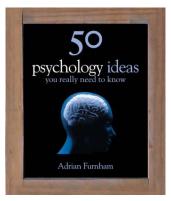


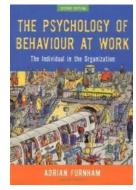


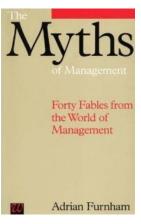


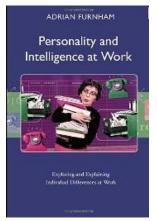


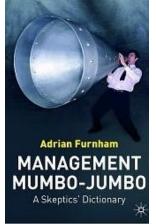


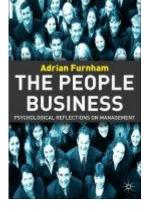


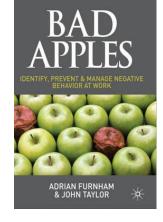


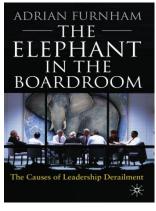


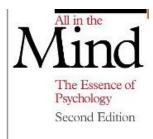




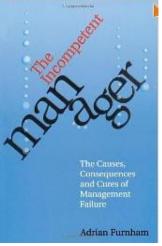


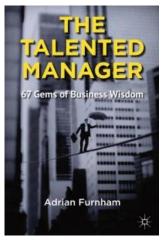


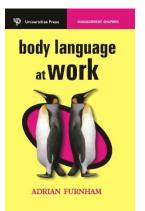


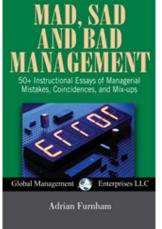


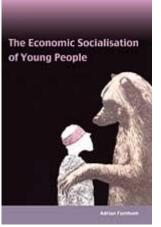


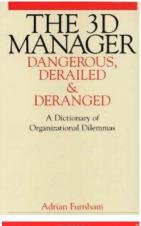


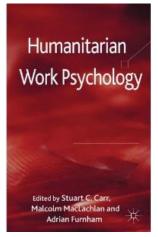


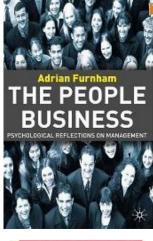


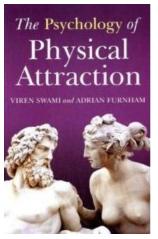


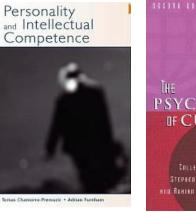


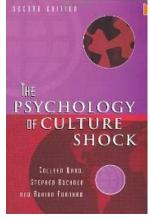


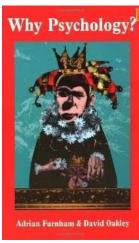


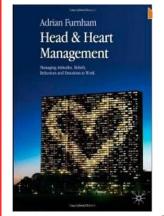


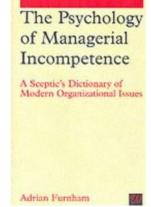


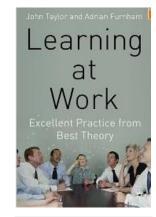


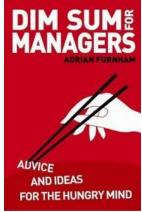




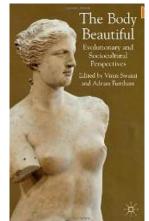


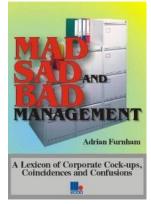


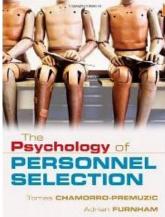






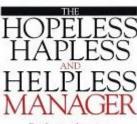






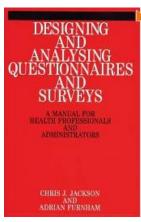


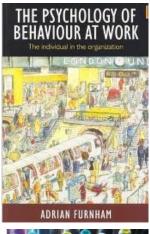


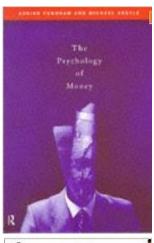


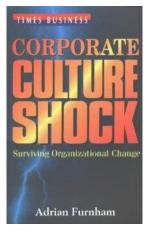
Further explorations in the psychology of managerial incompetence

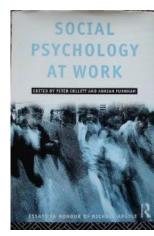
ADRIAN FURNHAM

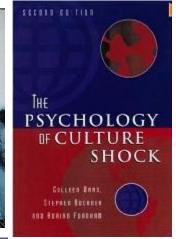


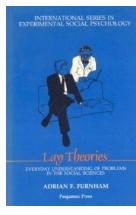


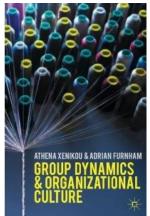


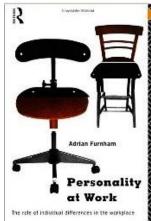


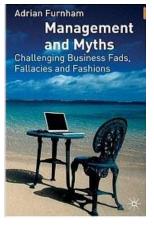


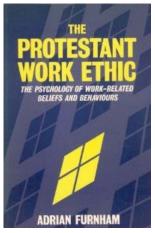




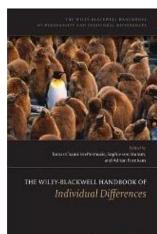


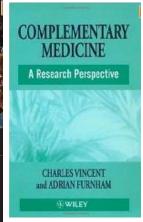


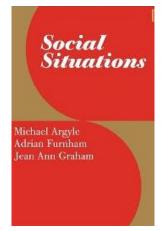


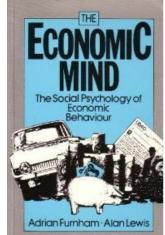


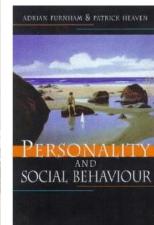


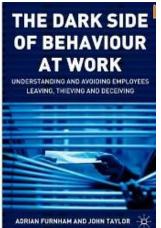




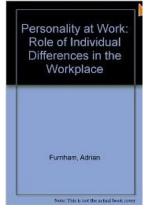


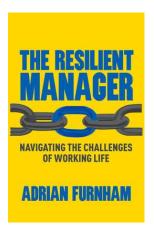


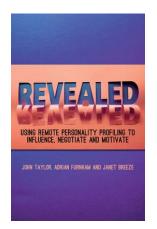


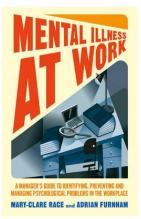




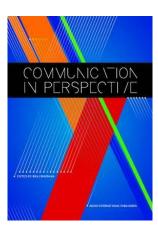


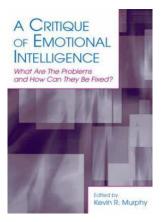


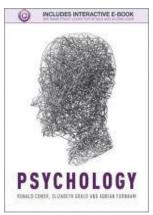


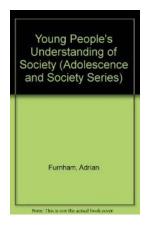


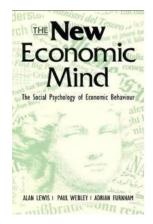


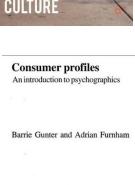




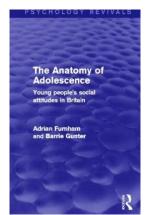


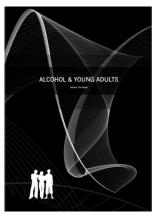


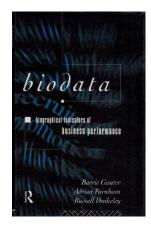


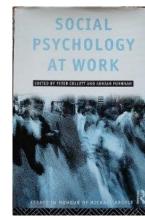


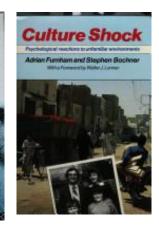


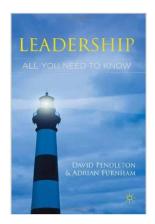












**Associated British Foods** plc







### The Economist





























































# ferrovial















ĽORÉAL







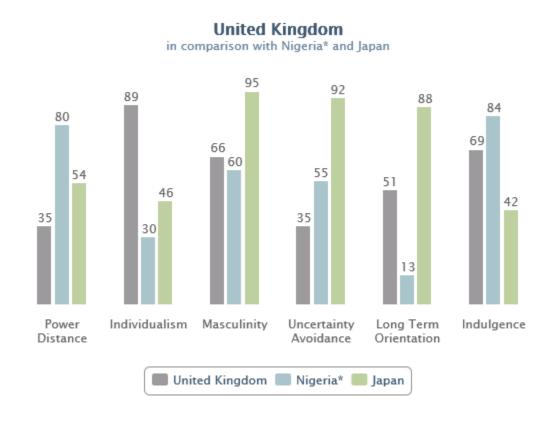




Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government



### Culture Differences



# The Essence of Good Management

- Simple but important truths about management
- Tough times test managers

#### The Heart and The Head: Logic or Intuition

To what extent is persuasiveness/influencability a matter of

Analysis, argument and logic or

Emotions, feelings and intuitions





### Management of People

is about...

- Recruiting
- Selecting
- Engaging
- Developing
- Letting go

- People

## The Essentials of Management

### Challenge

 Clear objectives for individual and company. People know their objectives

### **Support**

 Providing emotional, social, technical, financial and informational support

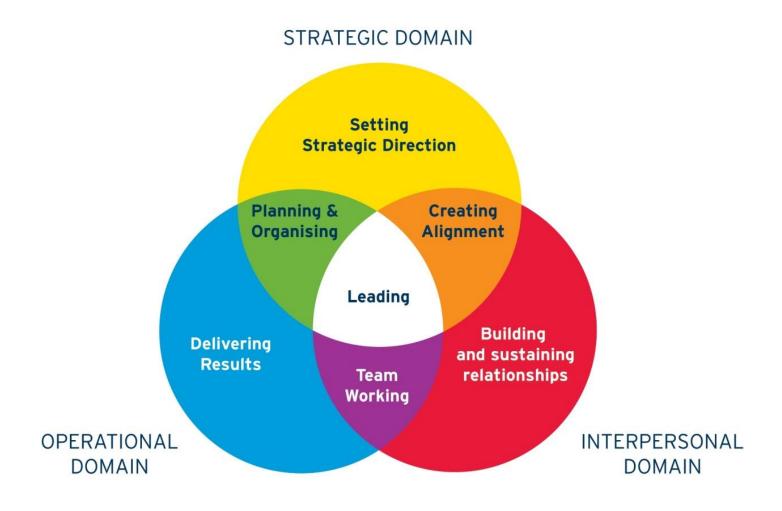
### **Feedback**

Regular, specific, behavioural





## The Primary Colours Model



### Motivation

#### Intrinsic vs. Extrinsic

The joy of the activity vs. a material reward.

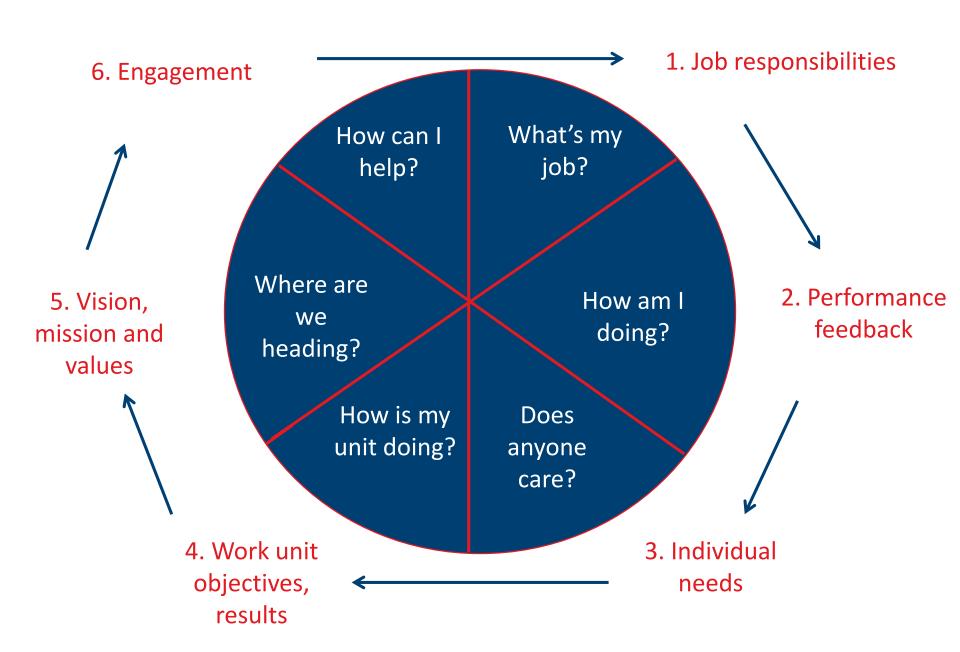
Engagement vs. pay packet.



#### Does intrinsic motivation decrease with extrinsic rewards?

But all jobs have a mix of intrinsically and extrinsically interesting features and levels of difficulty.

Intrinsic motivation is increased by a sense of mastery, competence, skill acquisition, control and self determination.



# **Engagement**

### **Earlier terms**

- Job Satisfaction
- Job Commitment
- Job Involvement





### New terms

- Job Engagement
  - High levels of energy
  - Persistence
  - Enthusiasm and pride
  - Sense of empowerment
  - Initiative seeking

# **Engaged staff**

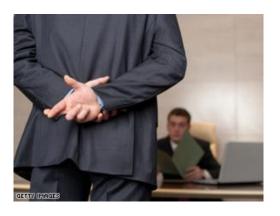
- Seem energetic and vigorous
- Are dedicated and respond to challenges
- Seem absorbed at work

# Engagement comes from the way people are managed.



### The Psychology of Disenchantment

Organisation Lying/Hypocrisy



Perceived Inequity



Bullying & Mistreatment



Distrust



**Broken Promises** 



# It is easy (ier) to lead in good times

Poor leadership can be covered up

- Profitability and growth targets are easier to hit
- Optimism pervade the top team, employers and shareholders
- Managers are tested in lean times... both the best and the worst of times

# How do people want their leaders to appear?

- Steady and calm under fire
- Defiant and Vigilant
- Fit in body and mind



Someone who understands the business AND its people.

# Opportunity vs. Threat



- Bad times can be Darwinian: survival of the fittest, quickest, boldest
- They can show what really motivates people
- They test managers and leaders
- They demand creativity and new-thinking
- They accelerate the need for change

### Opportunity

The Chinese word for "crisis"

Simplified Chinese: 危机;

Traditional Chinese: 危機; pinyin: wēijī)

is frequently invoked in Western motivational speaking as being composed of two Chinese characters respectively signifying:

"Danger" and "Opportunity".

## What Happens During Recessions

**Things stop:** Recruitment, Training, R&D, Advertising, Marketing.

Some managers put their head in the sand

Things change: Pension schemes closed, budgets slashed.

General belt tightening, people not replaced.

Communication stops/changes: PR doubles or halves quarterly.

But some make bold, decisive steps. Recessions lead to rethinking, reorganising, restructuring and making more fit

# Different Approaches to coping with a recession

- Recruitment freezes
- Pay freezes/ non-payment of increments/ or pay cuts
- Pay deferrals schemes
- Remove/ eliminate overtime
- Review temporary hire and contract staff
- Shorter working week/ temporary lay off/ flexible working
- Reduce use of agency workers
- Cut bonuses/ review other benefits
- Career break schemes

- Review pension contributions and / or benefit levels
- Extended/ additional annual leave
- Sabbaticals for long servers (subject to min/ max and paid or unpaid?)
- Service leave- short period of unpaid leave if more than 'X' years
- Secondments to other companies
- Redeployment in other parts of the business

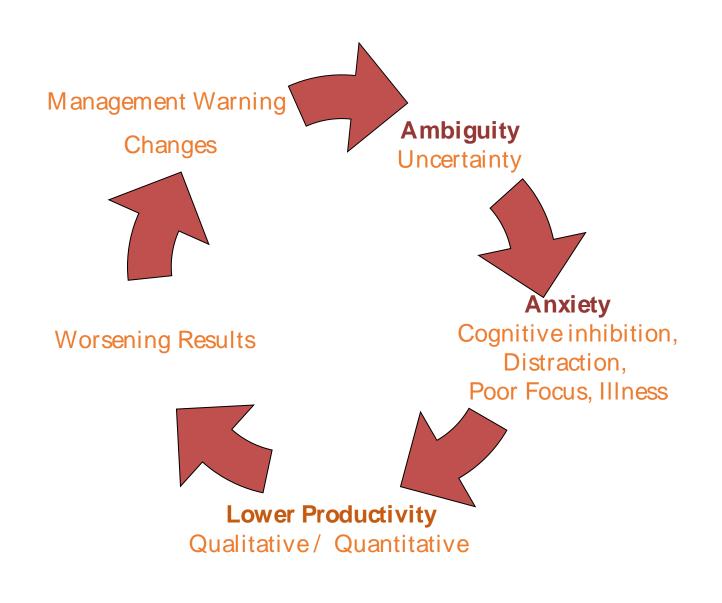
All of these have legal implications and must be dealt with appropriately

### What Do People Worry About?

- Redundancy
- Reduction in hours
- Wage Freeze



- Interest increases, family income, mortgage
- •FIFO vs. LIFO



### What Happens to Individuals

Shock, revival, Minimalisation

Depression, Pessimism, SelfBlame

Inertia, Fatalism

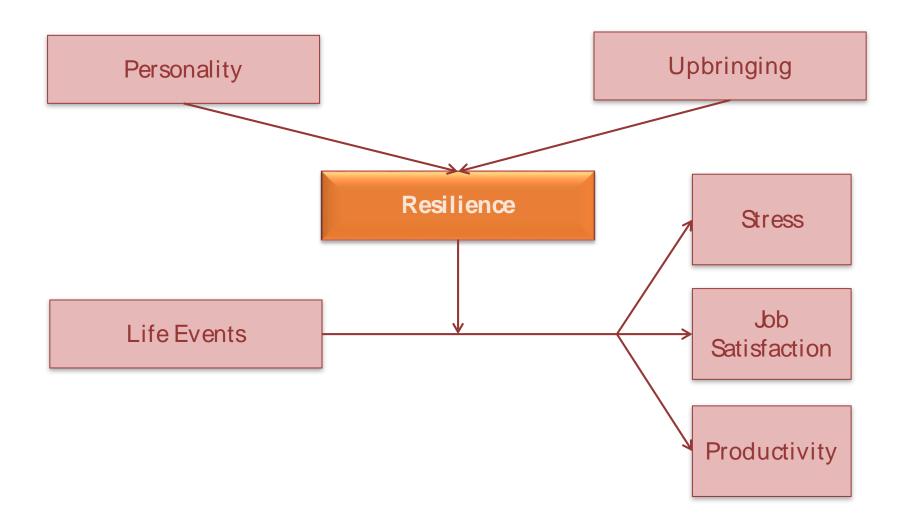
Adaptation, Testing,

Adjustment

Individual differences appear
 Repressors vs. sensitizers
 Instrumentalists vs. fatalists

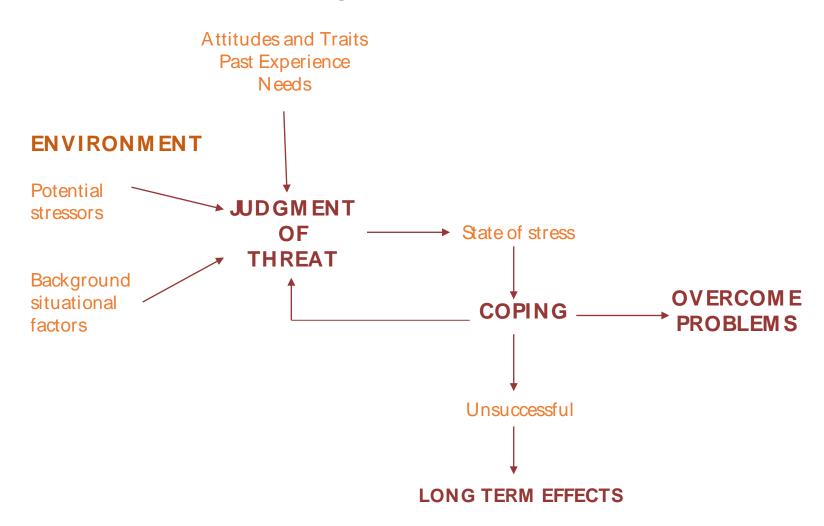


### The Role of Resilience

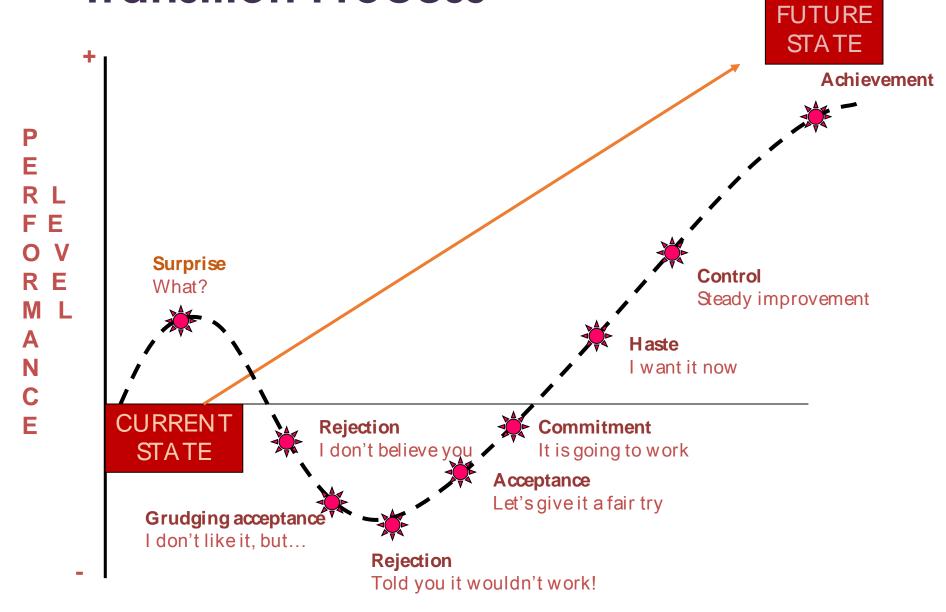


# The Person-Environment Model of Stress

#### **THEINDIVIDUAL**



### **Transition Process**



# **Typical Responses**

### Powerful emotions:

- Anger and depression for those who are to go
- Anxiety and guilt for those who stay

These are *natural* and to be *expected* but there are big individual differences in how they are shown and expressed:

### Gender, Age, Culture, Personality





### Counselling Helps

- The aim is to come to terms with the situation.
- To explore and express emotions.

### BUT

- Also to Reframe and Move ON...
- To see options and opportunities
- To re-evaluate the whole situation, re-appraise
- To see potential threats as opportunities



## What sort of people do best?

Those with grit and determination: think entrepreneurs

■ Those with resilience and hardiness

Those with ability and confidence

 Those with the experience of getting through difficult times

Those with social support



# Adjusting to Change

### **Healthy Adjustment**

Re-organised, focused, engaged

### **Fair Adjustment**

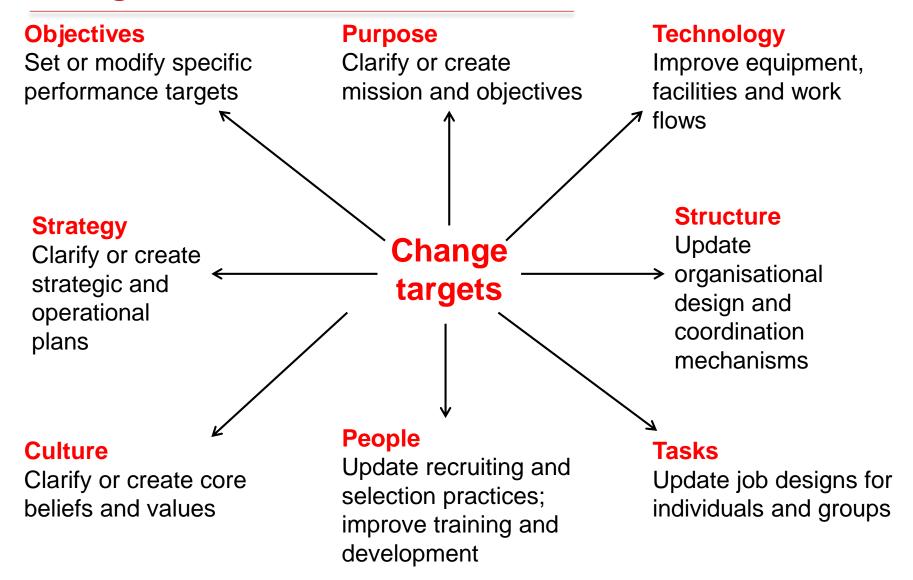
Holding on, dependent, fragile

### **Poor Adjustment**

Angry, apathetic, negative



# Organisational targets for planned change





### **People in Transition**

### 1. Ending and Letting Go

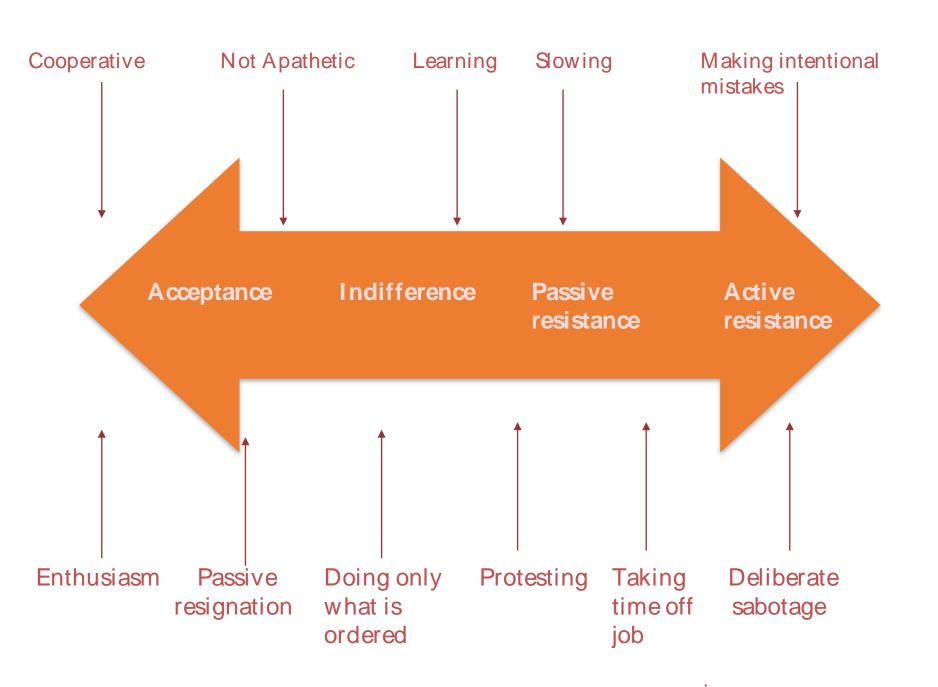
Stop identifying with the 'old organisation'-title, role, position and language.

### 2. Experience the neutral zone

Experience ambiguity, confusion, despair and meaninglessness.

### 3. Make a new beginning

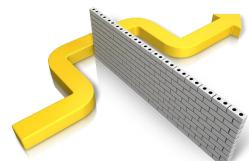
Learn new skills, make new relationships, build a new vision.



# Things To Do? Leadership; Innovation; Change

- Re-engage through frequent, consistent, honest communication
  - lunch time work shop
- Lead from the front: Strong, bold, adventurous
- Learn from previous recession. Beware cutting that which add customer value; don't go for big gestures
  - do the little things right
- Fix the leaks that soon appear
- Innovate: Get creative with all the stakeholders
- Change: Sharpen your focus, streamline process
- Try to attract talent badly managed elsewhere
- Prepare for economic recovery





# Advice for the Resilient Manager

- It is difficult to accept and bring about change.
- It takes time to adjust.
- But we can't resist progress, new technology, new ways of working and new competitors.
- Those who do best emphasize opportunity and challenge rather than resistance.
- It is about a Mindset...which can be self-fulfilling.
- Whether you believe you can (adapt/grow/succeed) or whether you can't you are right.
- Best give it your best.
- Upwards and onwards then.