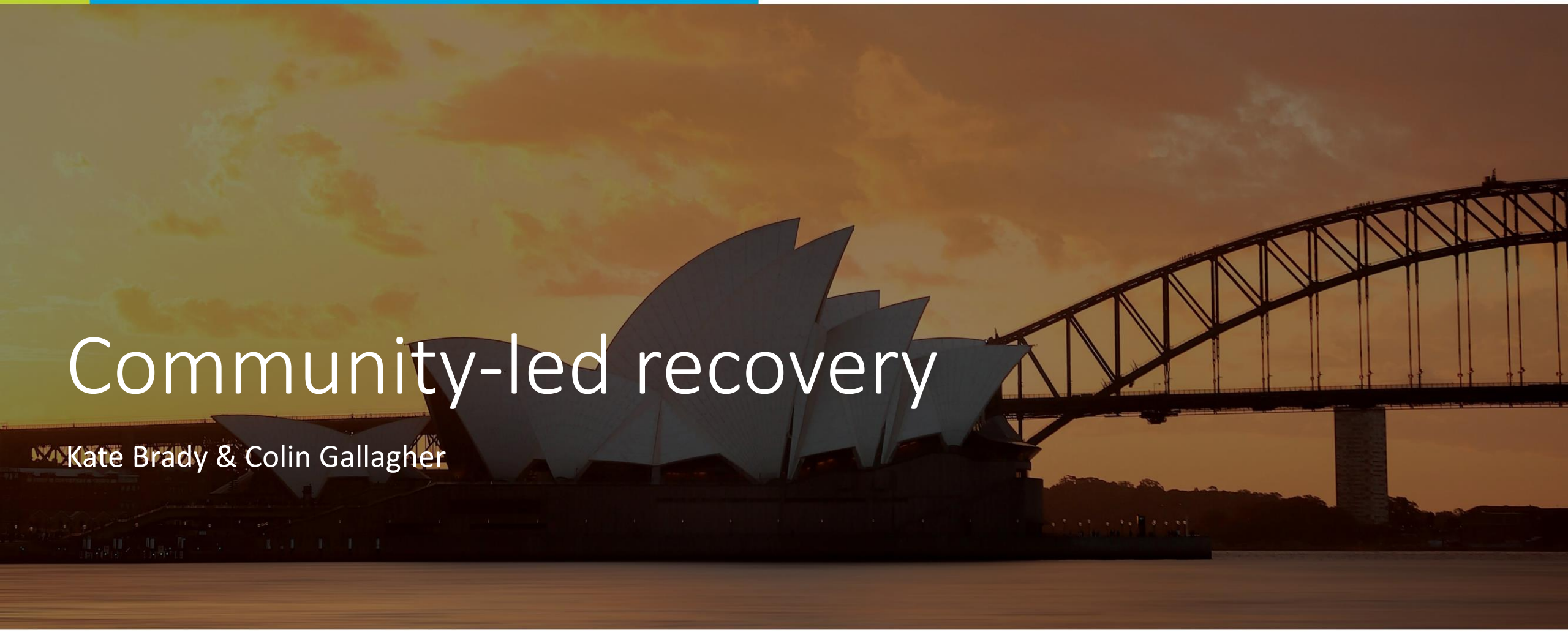
adrc 24 Australian Disaster Resilience Conference #ADRC24

Aligned to the afac24 powered by INTERSCHUTZ CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

3 – 6 SEPTEMBER 2024
ICC Sydney

Scan for program



Community-led recovery

Kate Brady & Colin Gallagher

Australian Government
National Emergency Management Agency

Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience

iag

NRMA INSURANCE A Help Company

FIRE to FLOURISH Strength through community-led action

NSW GOVERNMENT

Lisa Gibbs

Kate Brady

Colin Gallagher

Hannah Morrice

Community Recovery Groups (CRGs)

Groups comprised of community members who are involved in the recovery process.

When we use this term, we are **not** referring to groups comprised primarily of people representing government and other organisations.

Phase 1

bushfire&natural HAZARDSCRC

BUSHFIRE RECOVERY VICTORIA

How can government best support community based decision making after disasters?

What do we know about CRGs (models, types of support that are helpful) from the existing literature?

Phase 2

Natural Hazards Research Australia

EMV EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT VICTORIA

What **are** CRGs and what **should** they be?

Testing new tools to help CRGs and the agencies that support them:

Self assessment tool

Social network mapping tool

Disagreement within groups & teams

Disagreement within teams

Range of ideas about what a CRG does and should do

Disagreement within teams

Range of ideas about what a CRG does and should do

- Inform government
- Social event planners
- Listen & report
- Represent & prioritise
- Deliberate & debate
- Decision making
- Project manage & oversight

For each statement, click the icon (agree, disagree or neutral) that aligns most with your view about what an 'ideal' Community Recovery Committee should look like.

Q-Sort Survey

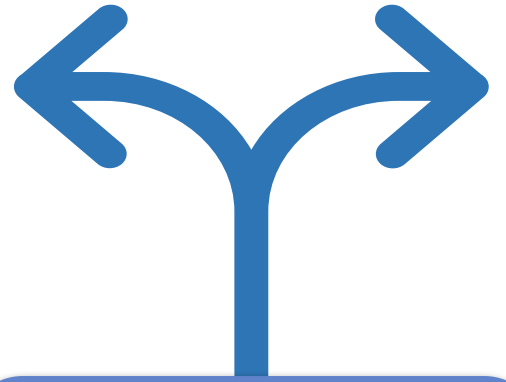
-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4
				Community members should determine how long a CRC will last for				
				CRCs should be a group with no legal status				
			CRC members should have the administrative skills needed to run a committee	CRC membership should be comprised of representatives of other established groups from the community (e.g. school associations, sporting clubs, religious groups, special interest groups)	CRC members are formally elected by others			
		CRC members should be people who were known as community leaders before a disaster	CRCs should be developed based on a specific issue or experience (e.g. people who have lost their homes or people who have been bereaved)	CRC members should all live in the place the CRC is based in	CRCs start before a disaster	CRCs start when there has been time to think about their purpose		
	There can only be one CRC within a single local community	There is a formal process to establish a CRC	Government decides if there will be a CRC	CRC membership should be comprised of the people who are most keen to be a part of the committee	CRC membership should include a mix of community members and government / organisation representation	CRCs should be accountable to government	The community decides if they will be a CRC	
CRCs should be structured consistently across different communities	CRCs membership should look like the community – i.e. a representative cross-section of all voices in community	CRCs should be incorporated bodies (or another legal entity)	Governments should determine how long a CRC will last for	There can be mulitple CRCs within a single local community	If CRC membership is not diverse or representative of the community more members should be deliberately recruited	CRC membership should only include community members	CRCs should be developed based on a geographic community	There is no one 'right' way to establish a CRC
CRC members are nominated by government	CRCs should be formally included in emergency management plans before disasters happen	CRCs should have strong connections to government and other organisations	CRC's should report back to their community about decisions they make	CRCs start very soon after a disaster	CRCs should be accountable to the communities they serve	CRC members are self-elected	Any community member can start a CRC	CRCs should not be connected to government and other organisations

Disagree — Neutral — Agree

Screenshot

3 camps of thinking about CRGs

ReGroup: Disaster Recovery Groups



The CRG **leads community recovery** from disaster, with an active role in decision-making.

CRG has essential role in **identifying community priorities** for recovery.

CRG as an advisory group to government. Making plans **before** the next disaster happens.

Disagreement within teams

Range of ideas about what a CRG does and should do

Community recovery groups were reacting to government

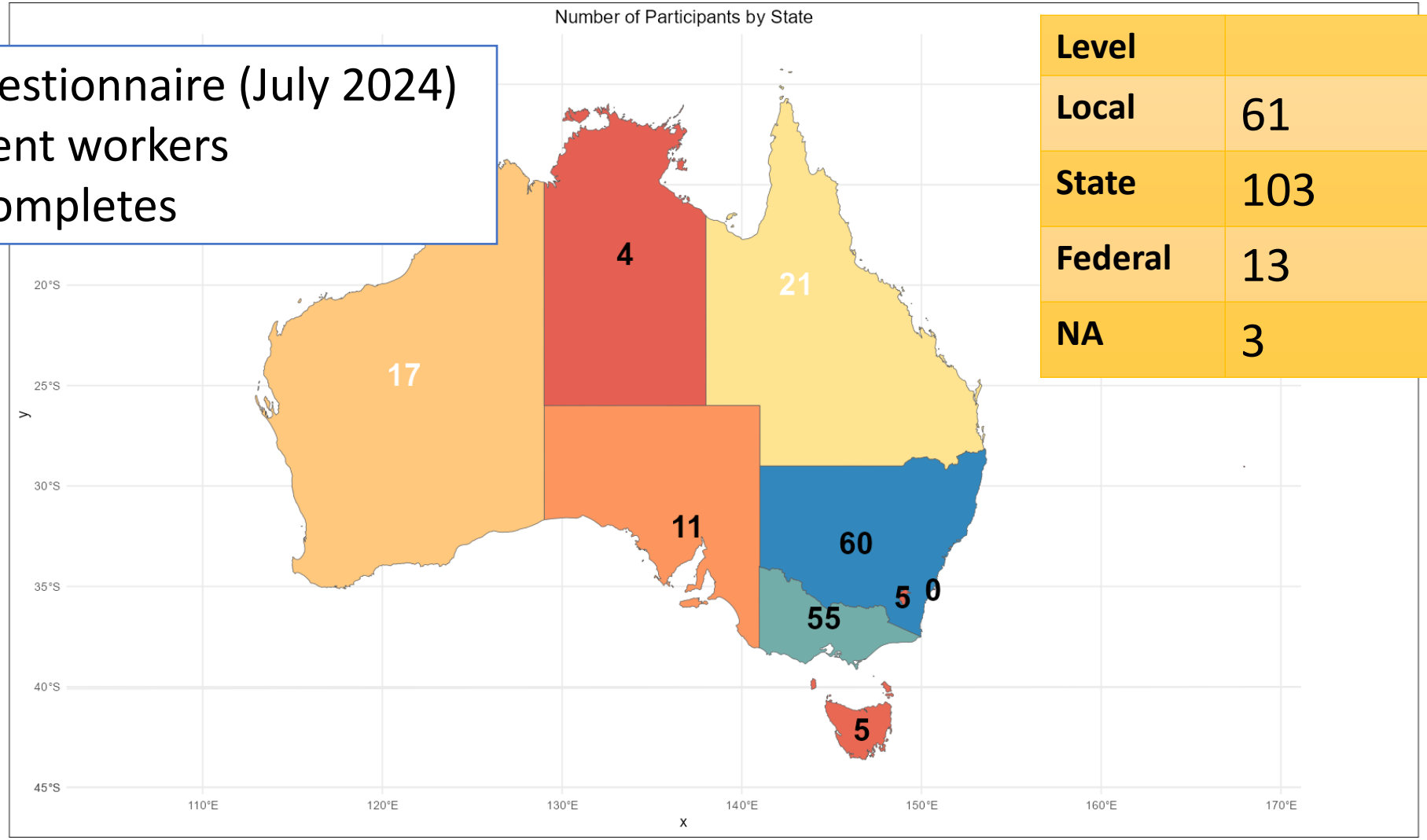
Phase 2.5

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

What do individual government workers think community-led recovery should be?

Where do they see barriers or breakdowns in community-led approaches?

Online questionnaire (July 2024)
Government workers
N ~ 187 completes



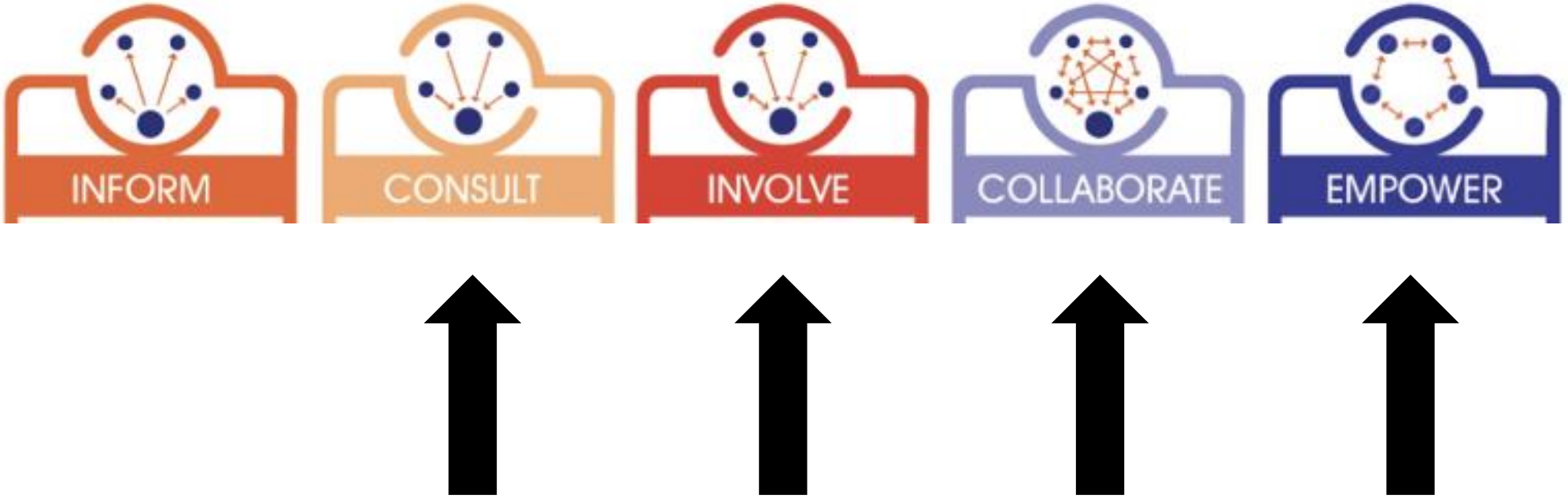
Level	
Local	61
State	103
Federal	13
NA	3

Some caveats

- Purposive sample
  - Not a random sample, which would be difficult
- Our main goal is exploration (what), not inference (how many)
  - To describe general schools of thought
- Caveats:
  - Numbers in our sample may not reflect "government workers" as a whole.
  - There may be more schools of thought out there.

How would you explain community-led recovery?

How would you explain community-led recovery?



"[where] the community can manage the situation until agencies can get into the area to provide support"

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"Groups… that align with recovery sub plans"

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"… a process of supporting and giving agency to people affected by disaster in a way that allows for and encourages their participation in decision making."

"[where] the community can manage the situation until agencies can get into the area to provide support"

"Groups… that align with recovery sub plans"

"… a process of supporting and giving agency to people affected by disaster in a way that allows for and encourages their participation in decision making."

… subverting the power paradigm between communities and government, to ensure that communities have agency, power and decision-making autonomy, with government adopting a support role to assist the community in recovery where needed"

Government worker reactions to CLR activities

Two aims:

- To describe what government workers think CLR *should be*.
  - Schools of thought
- To get a sense of where *practical* barriers to CLR lie.

Government reactions to CLR activities

"Allow"

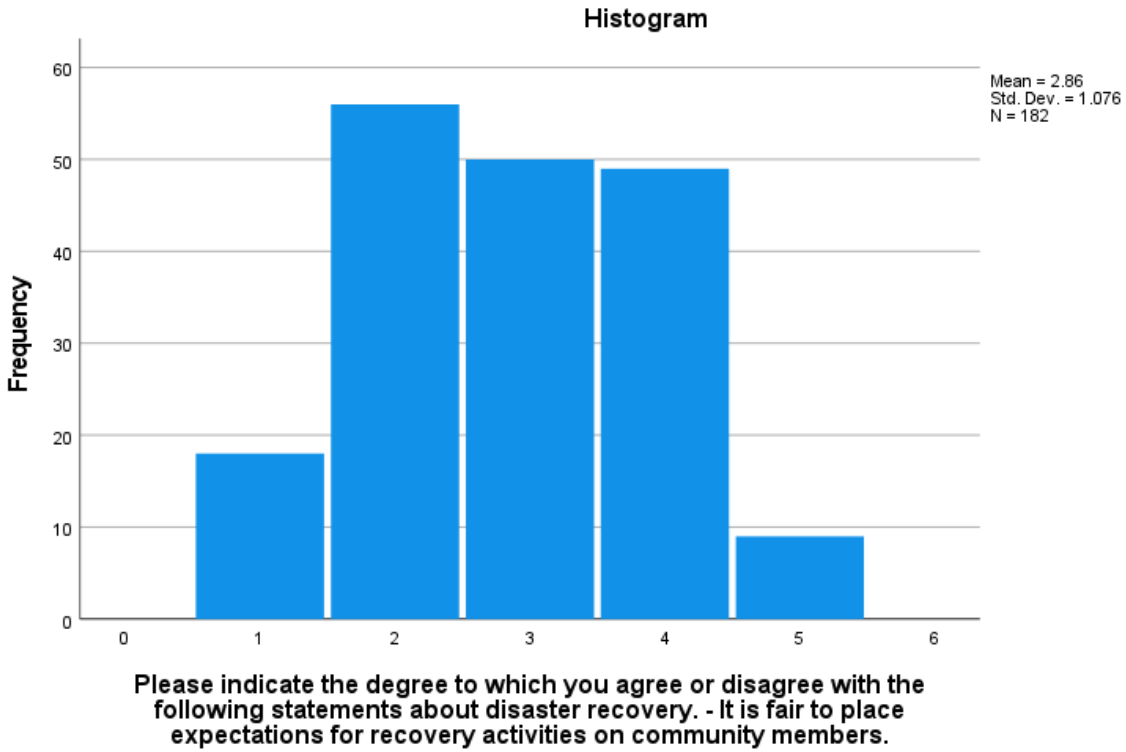
- Is it the right thing to do?
- Is it in conflict with a government mandate or requirement?

"Expect"

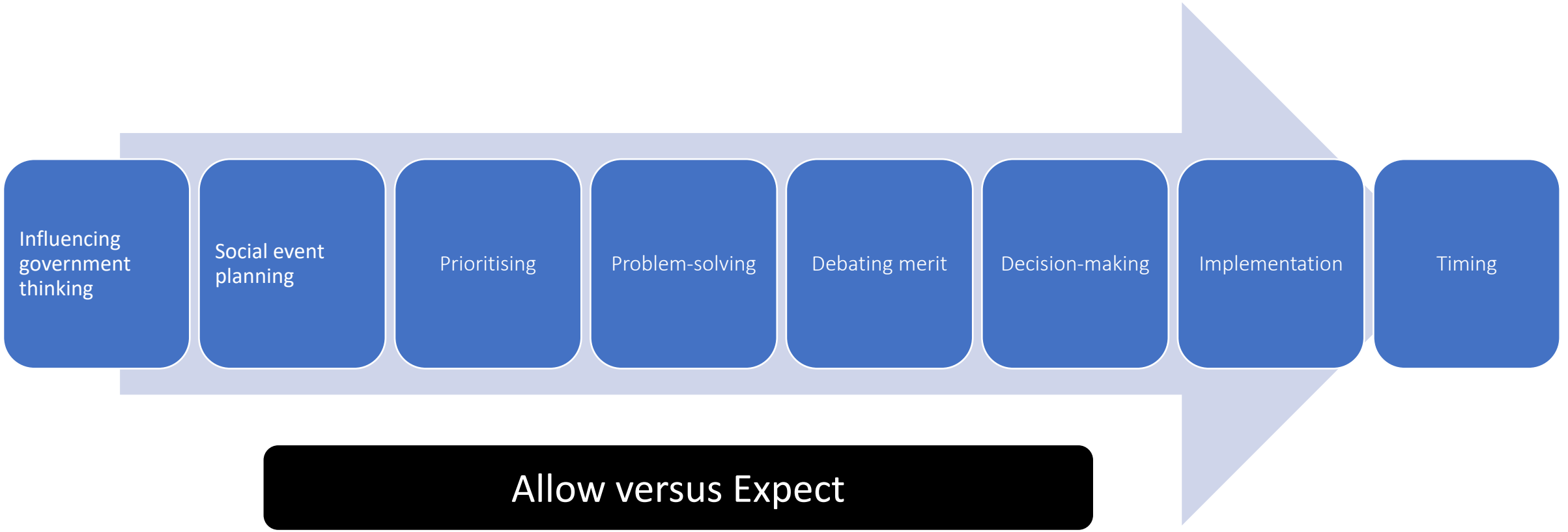
- Nice to have, but you can't depend on it (capacity, burden)?
- Pragmatic consideration around timeframes and political needs

Fair to expect?

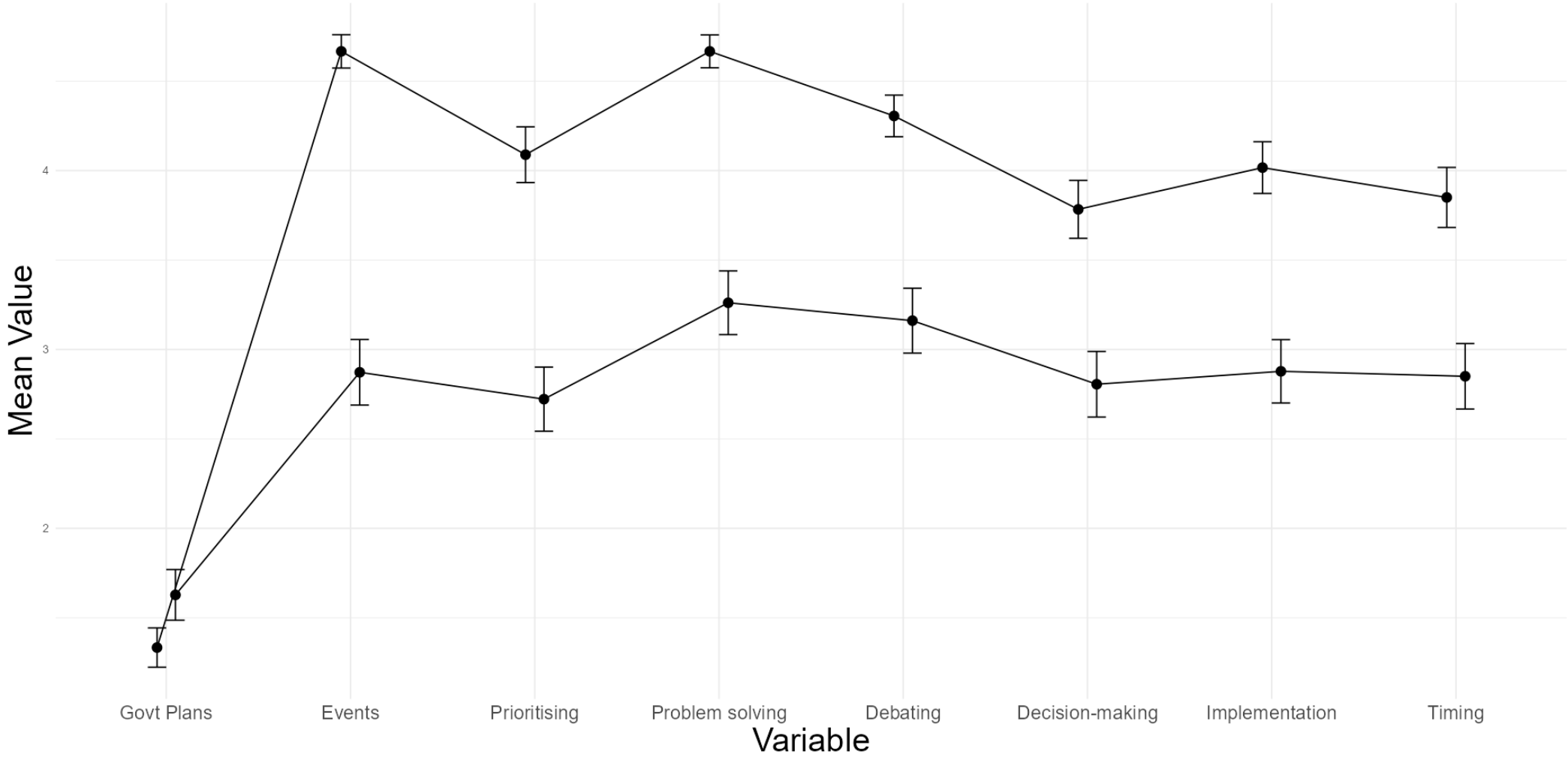
- Is it fair to place expectations for recovery activities on community members?



Levels of public participation



Allow vs Expect



Allowing versus Expecting

Paired sample t-test

No difference

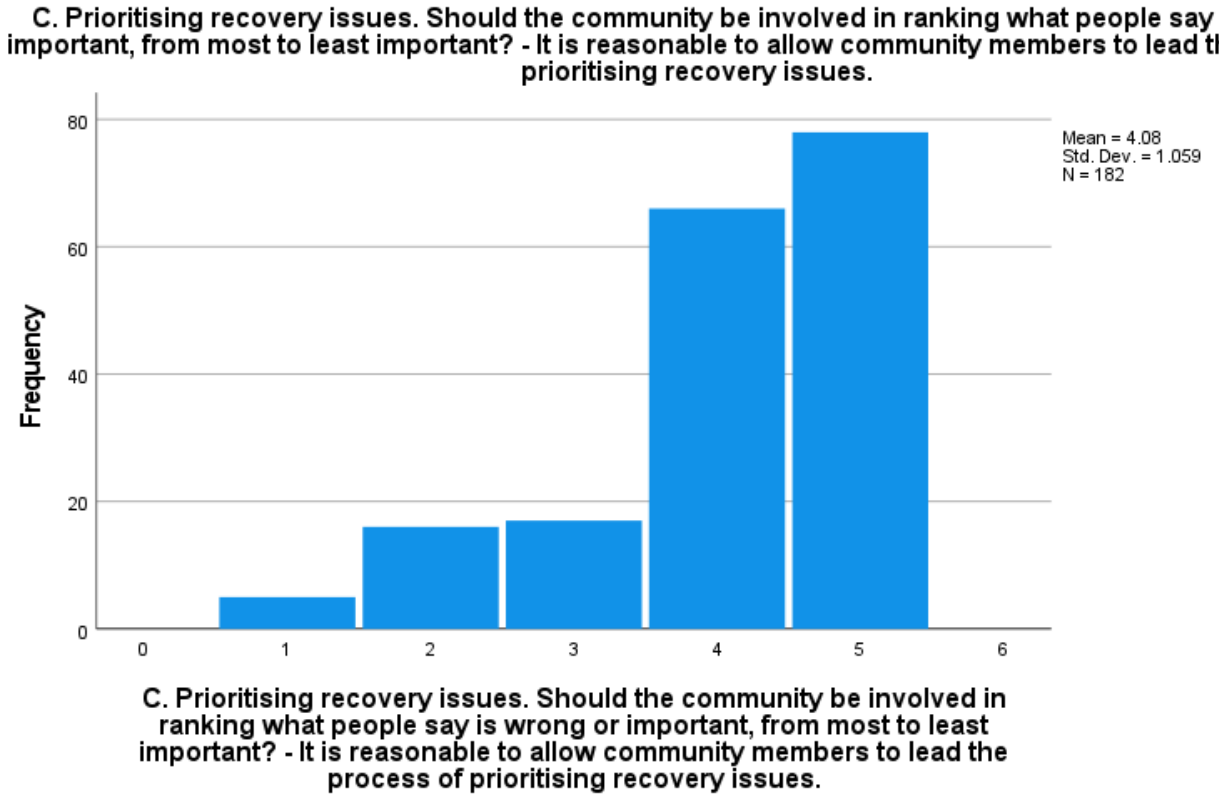
- Influencing government planning
- Social event planning
- Problem solving and brainstorming

Expecting < Allowing

- Prioritising issues
- Deliberation and debate
- Decision-making
- Implementation
- Deciding on timing

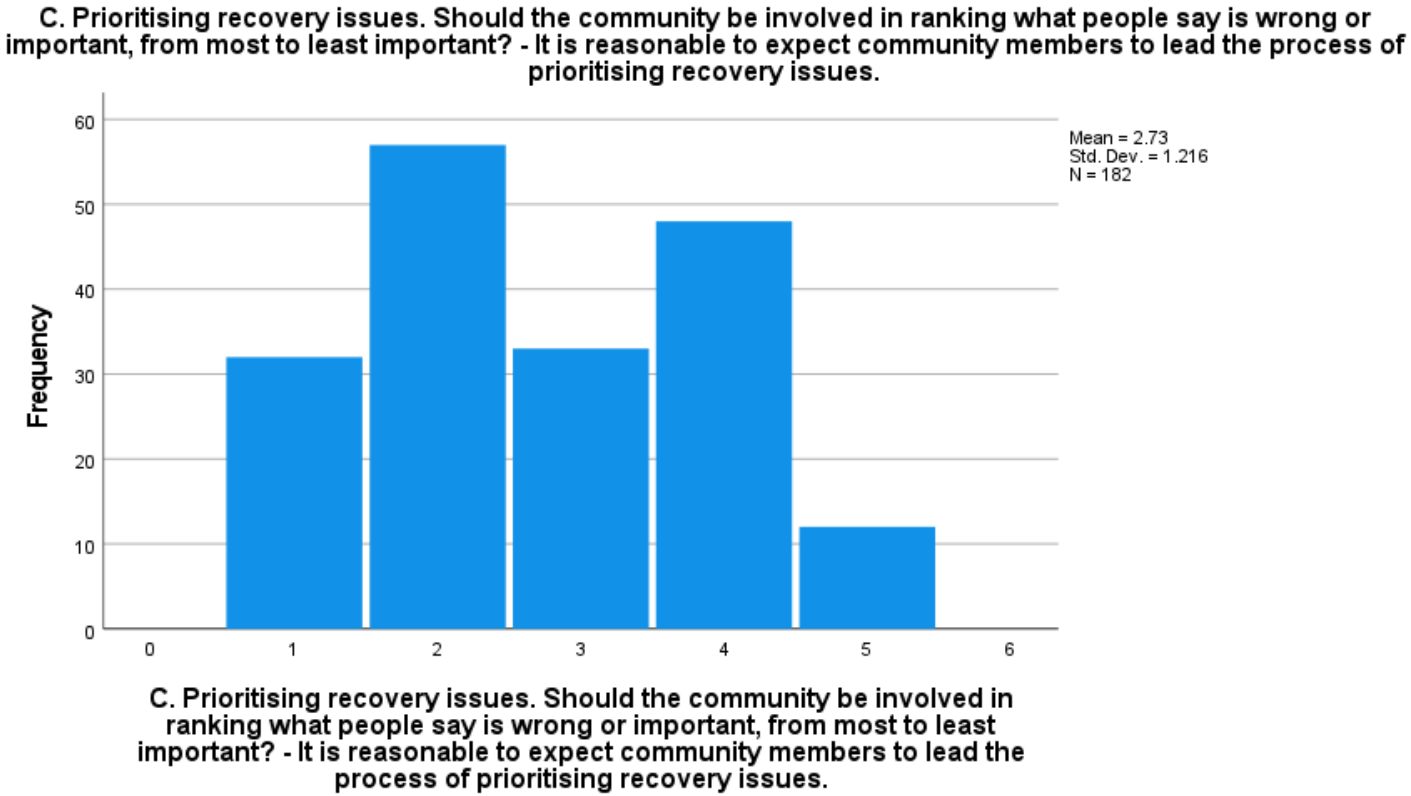
Prioritising recovery issues

"Allowing"



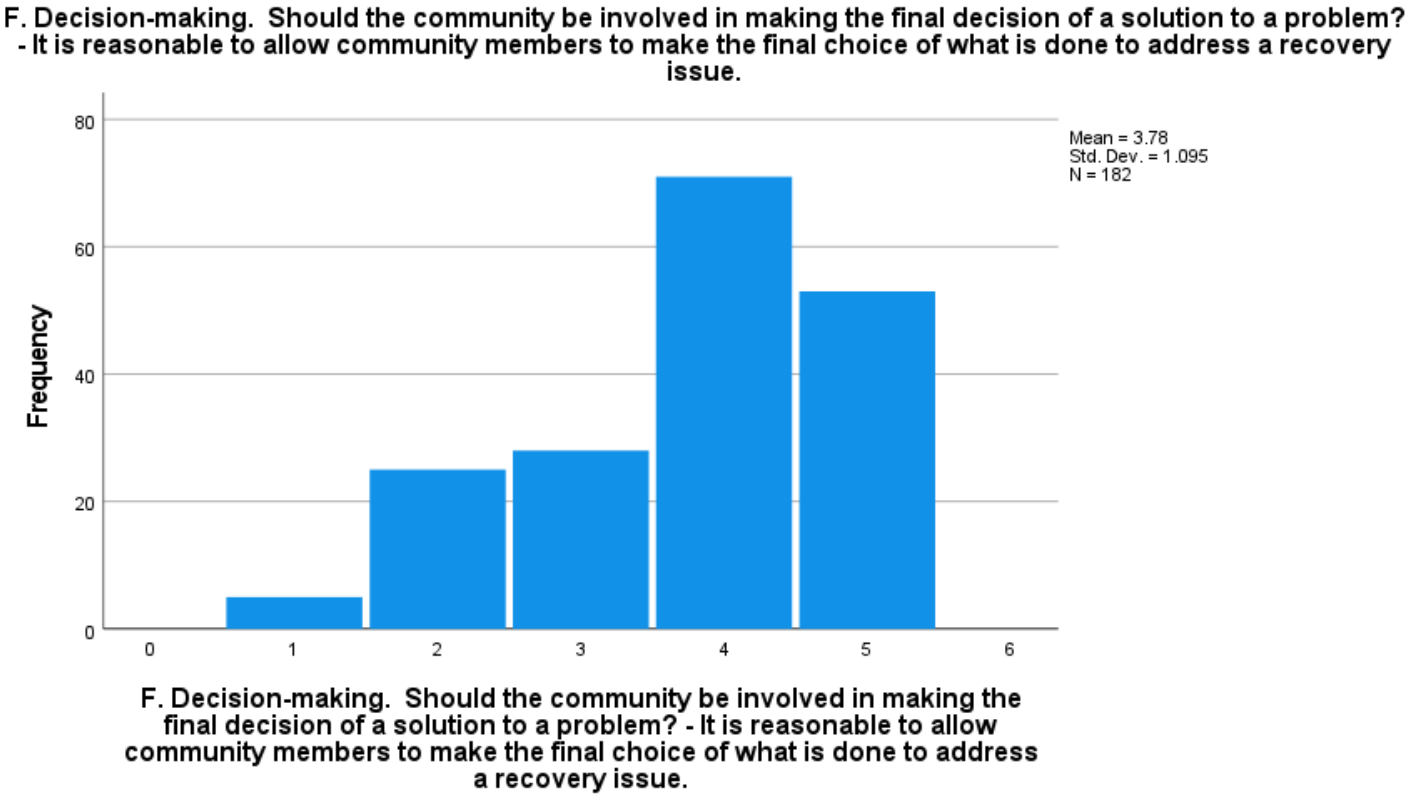
Prioritising recovery issues

"Expecting"



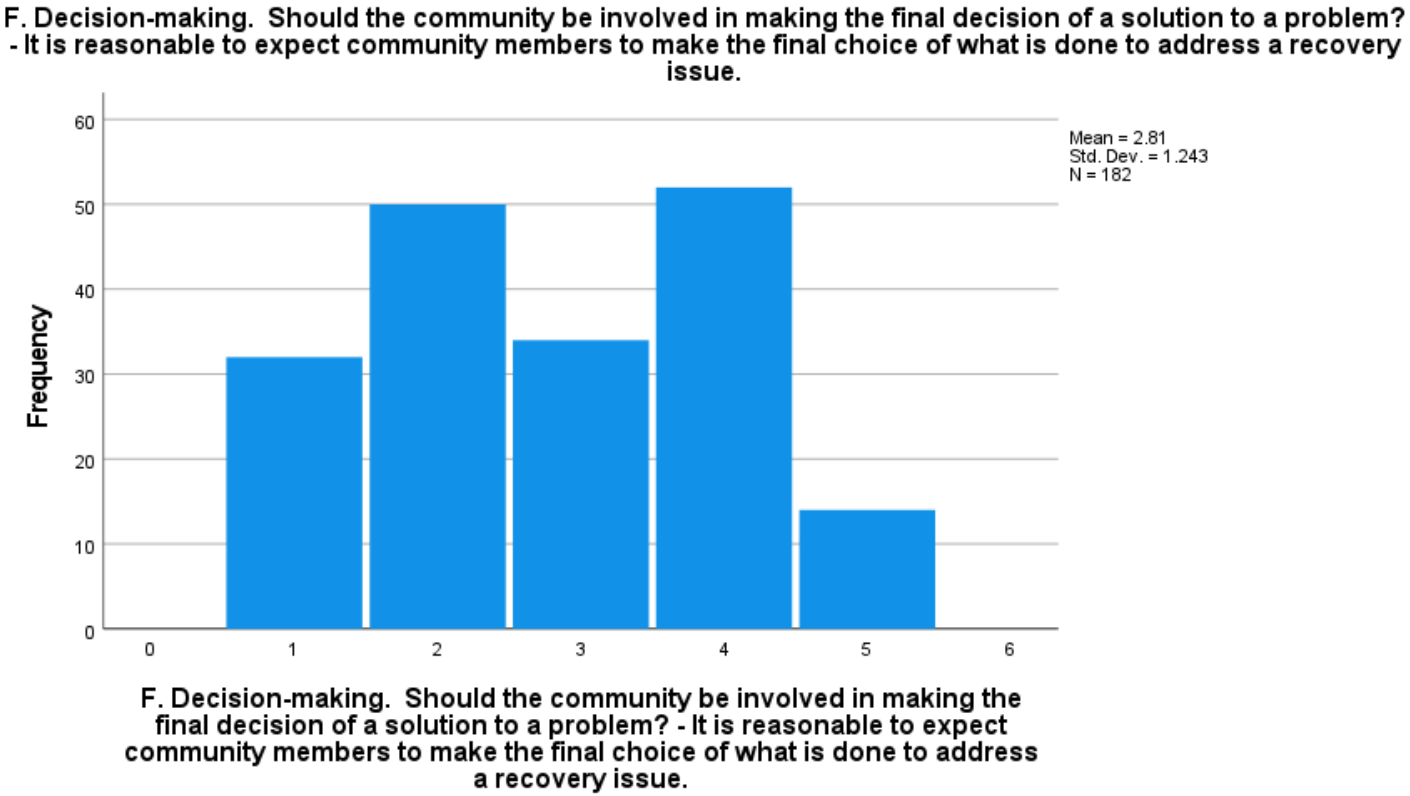
Decision-making

"Allowing"



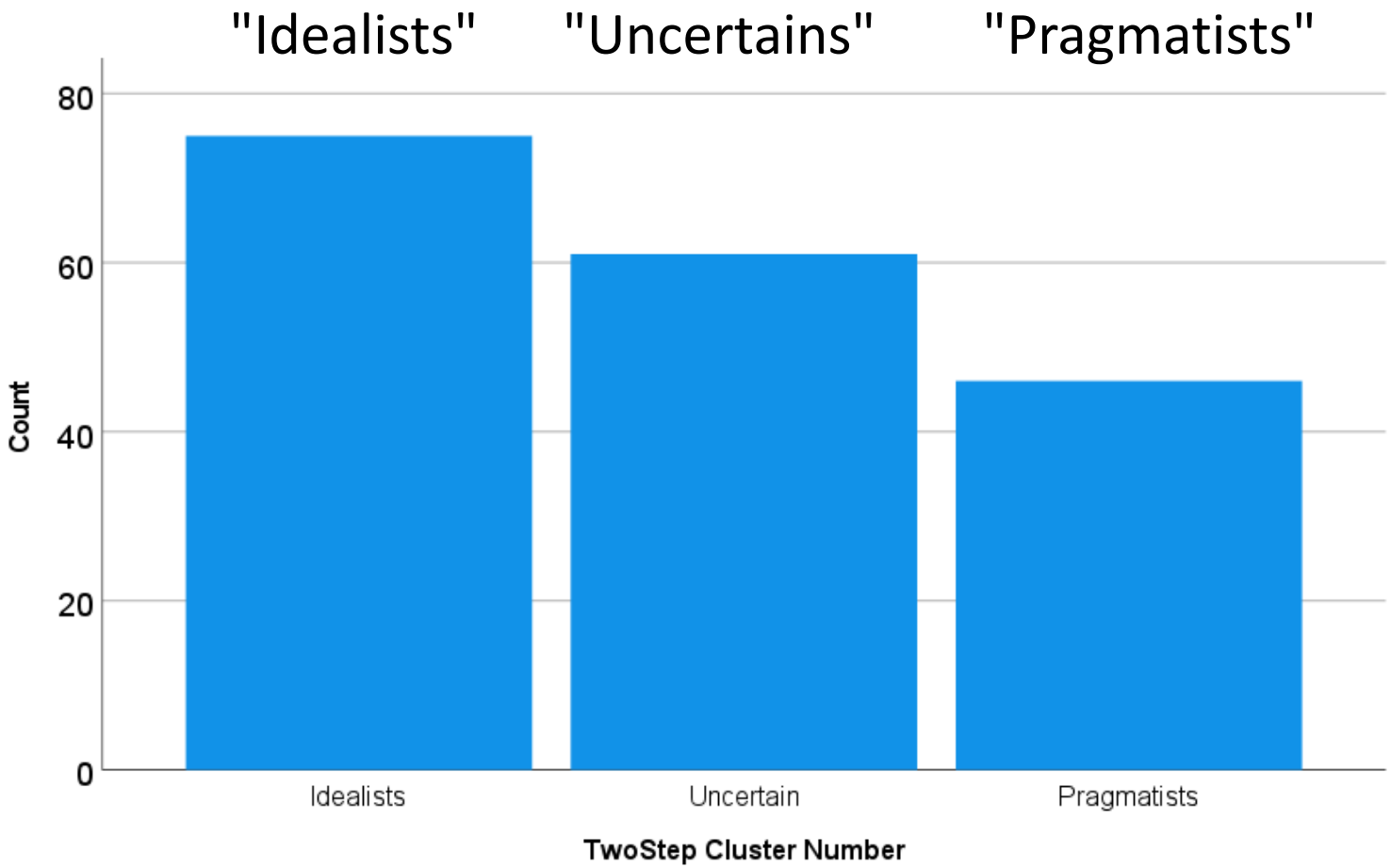
Decision-making

"Expecting"

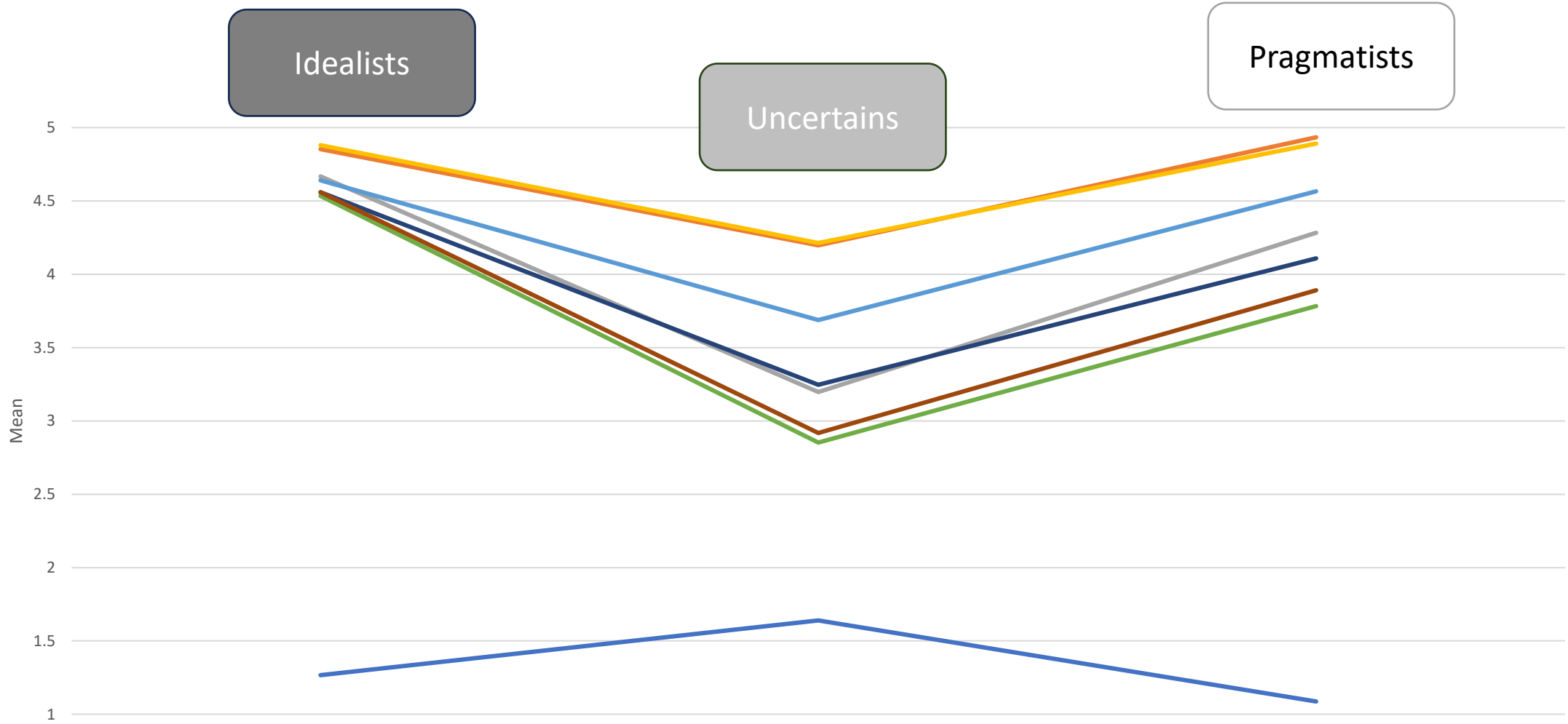


Grouping respondents by viewpoints

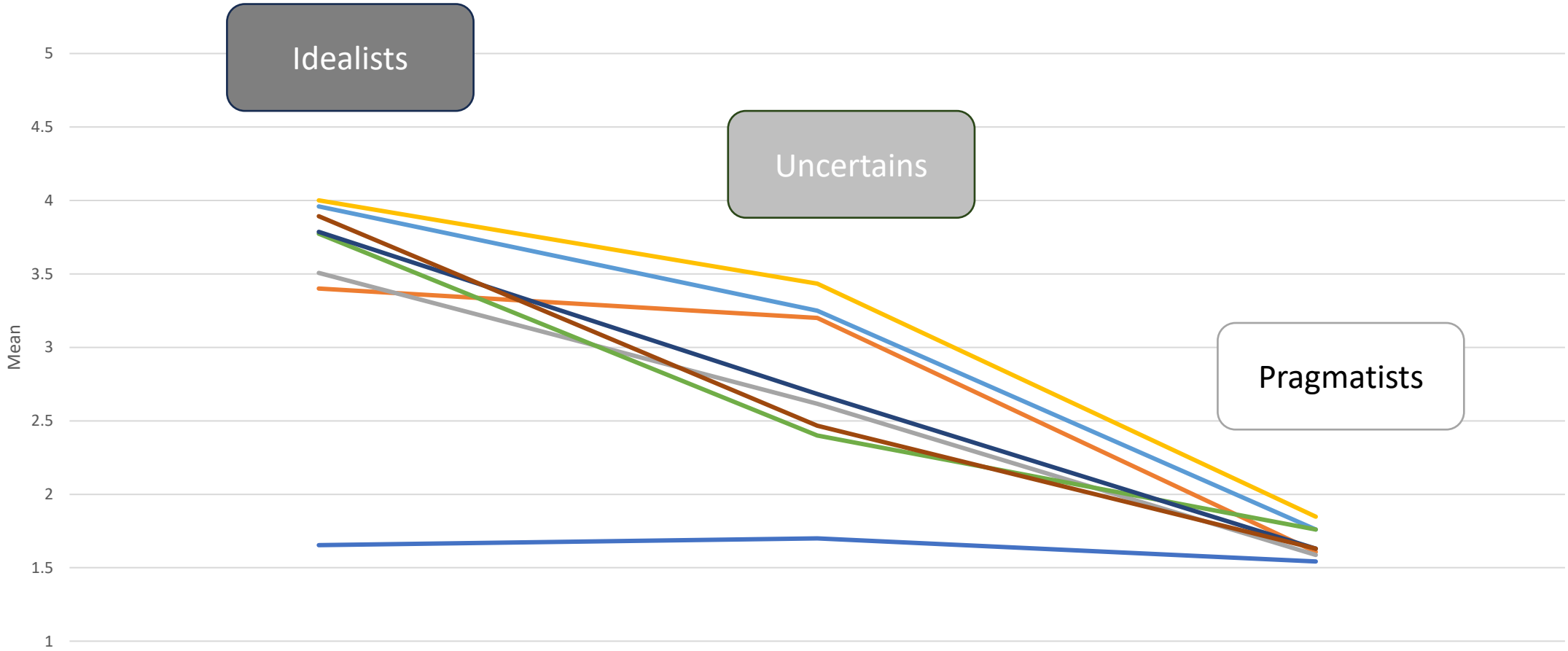
- Two-step Cluster Analysis
- 3-group solution



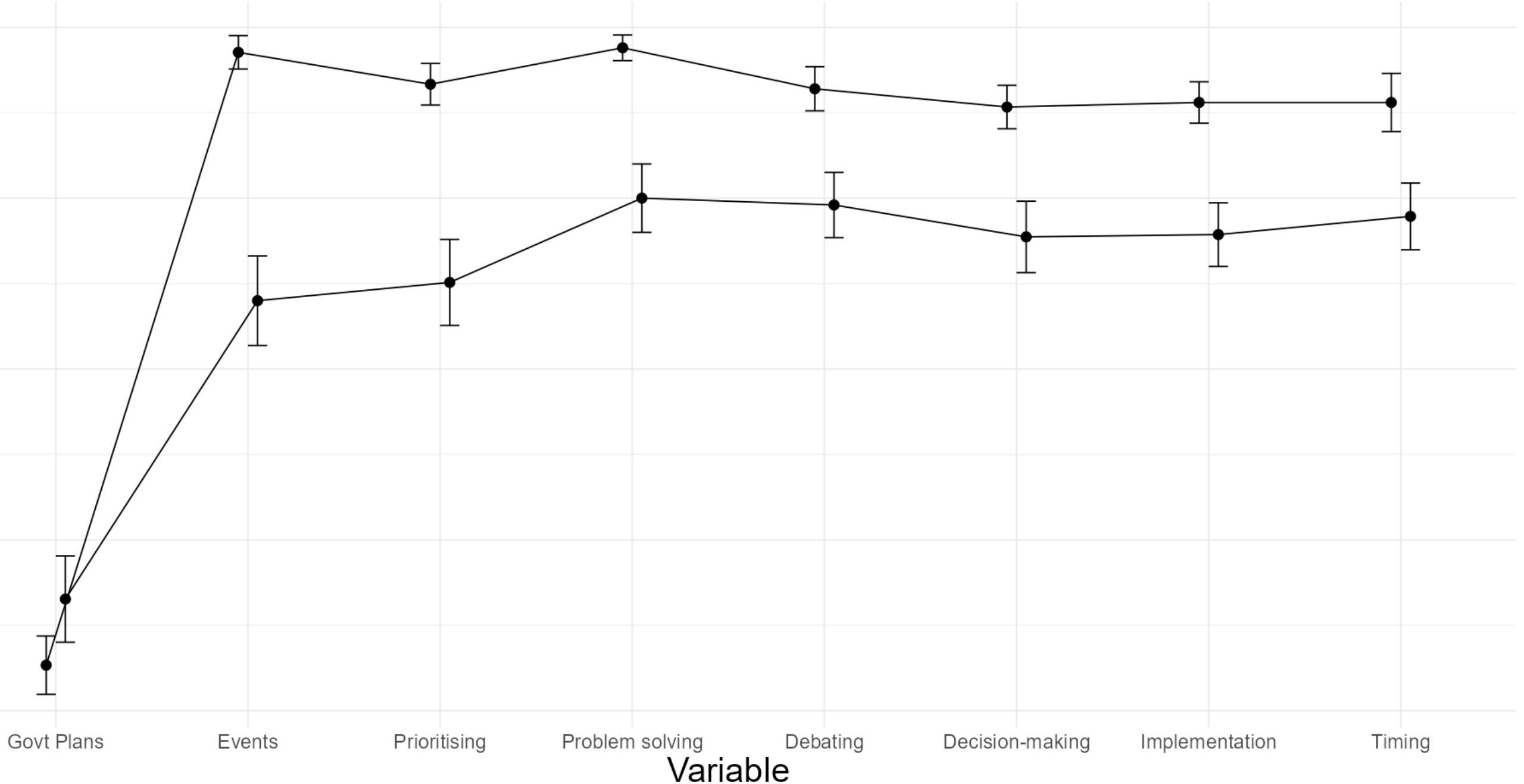
Allowing



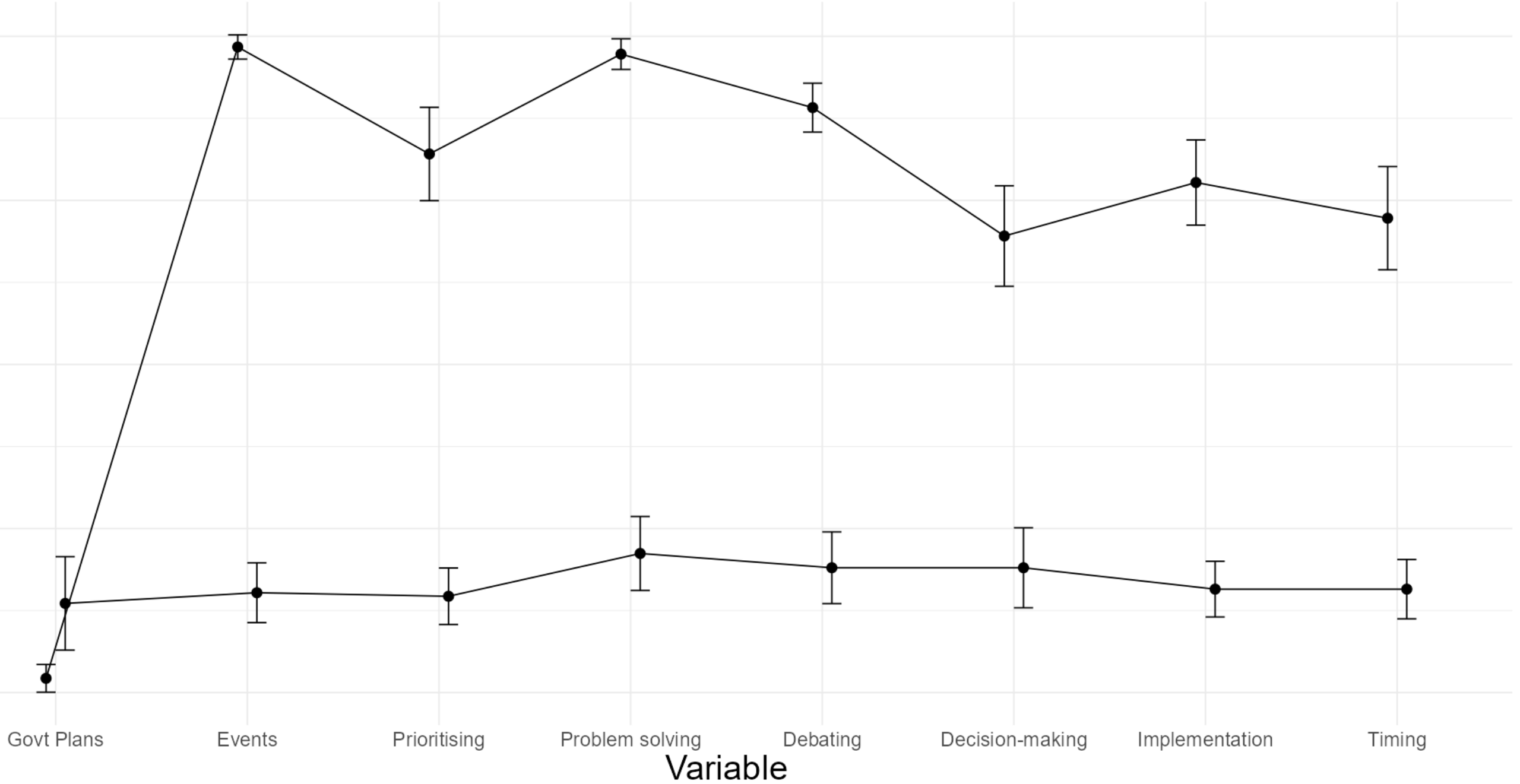
Expecting



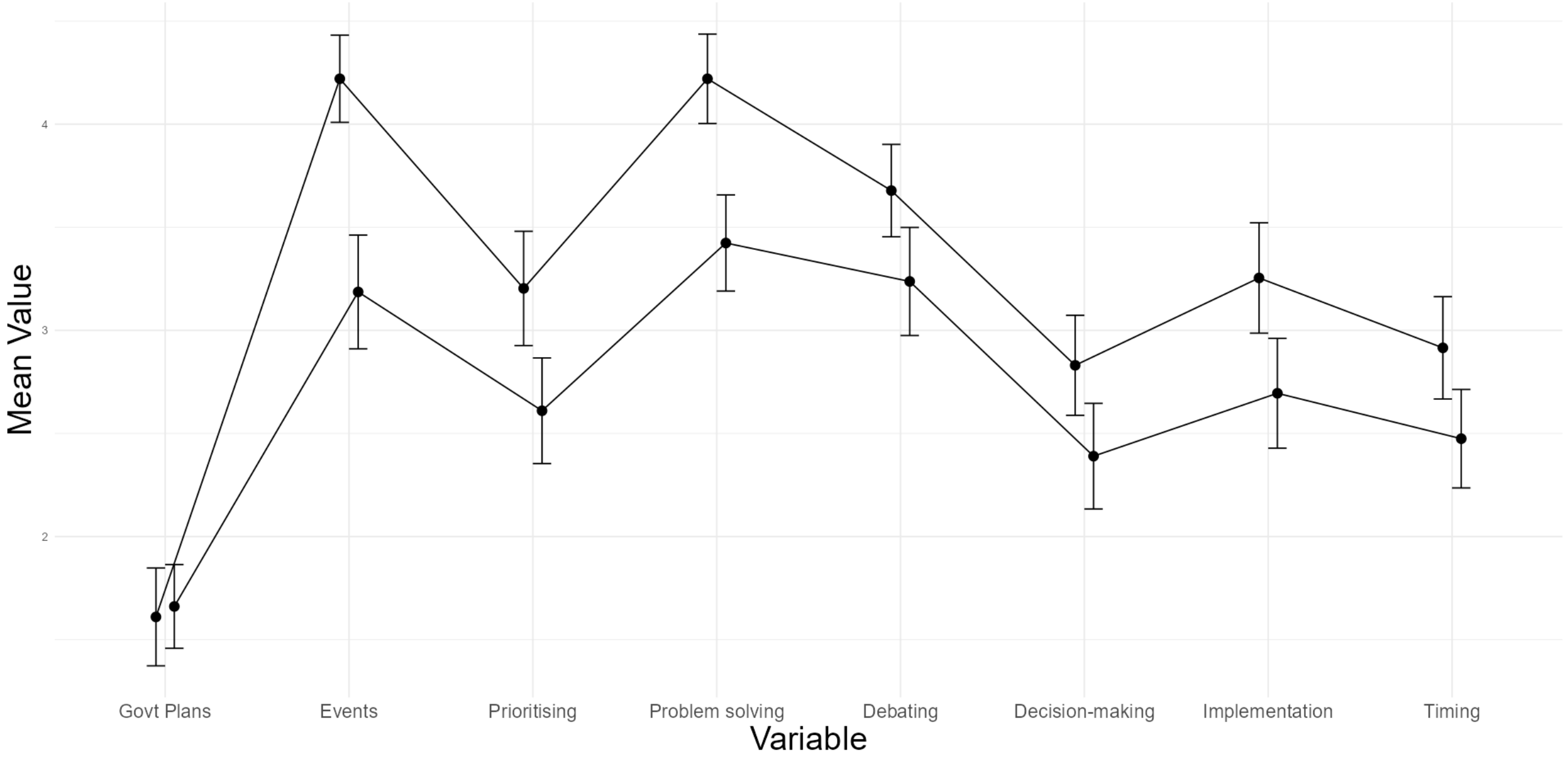
Idealists: Allow vs Expect

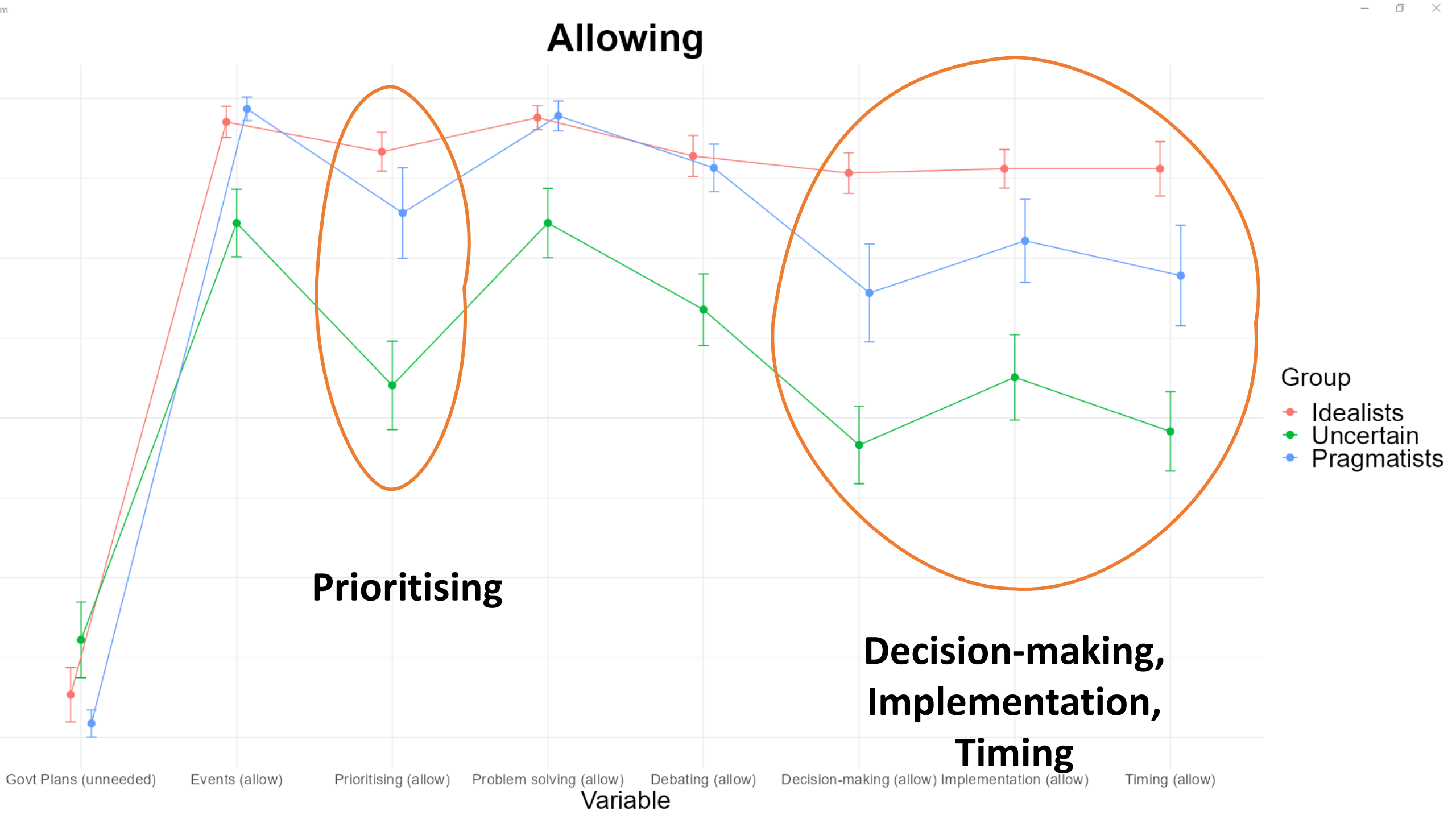


Pragmatists: Allow vs Expect



Uncertains: Allow vs Expect




Allowing
Prioritising
Decision-making, Implementation, Timing
Group
Idealists
Uncertain
Pragmatists
Govt Plans (unneeded)
Events (allow)
Prioritising (allow)
Problem solving (allow)
Debating (allow)
Decision-making (allow)
Implementation (allow)
Timing (allow)
Variable

Summary

- Different schools of thought: Allowing versus Expecting
  - Idealists versus Pragmatists versus Uncertains
- No controversy around advising and offering ideas and social cohesion.
- Differentiation around giving up power / imposing a burden
  - Prioritising (A key function of CRCs)
  - Decision-making and beyond (What many CRCs want to do).
- Two types of differentiation
  - Practicality gap in terms of giving up power
  - Different schools of thought around what's right to do.

Communities:

What sort of approaches can communities expect from government?

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Recovery workers:

What sort of training, support and role expectations are there?

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What sort of approaches can communities expect from government?

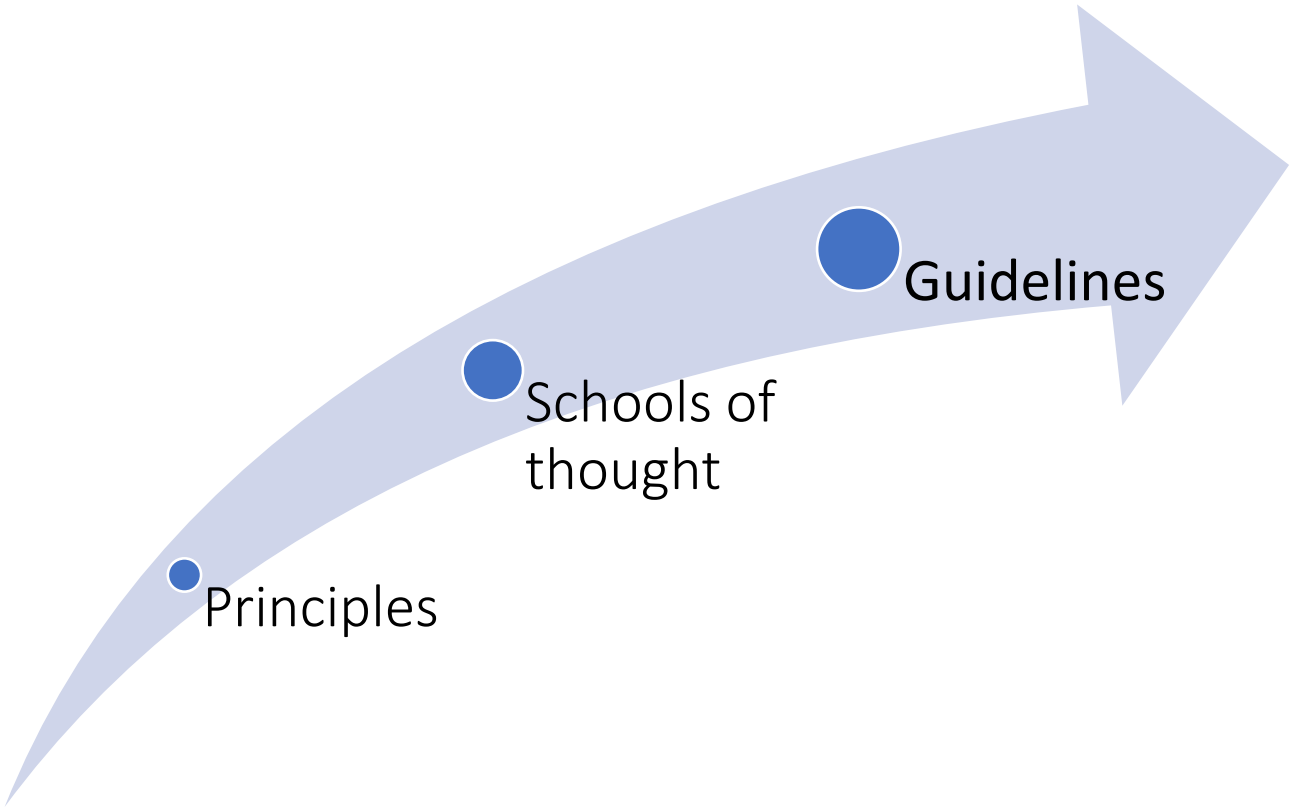
Recovery workers:

What sort of training, support and role expectations are there?

Agencies:

What are the policy, practice, timeline and budget implications?

Where to next?



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