

# **Example future scenario for community sport and recreation organisations**

**Using the four-box approach**

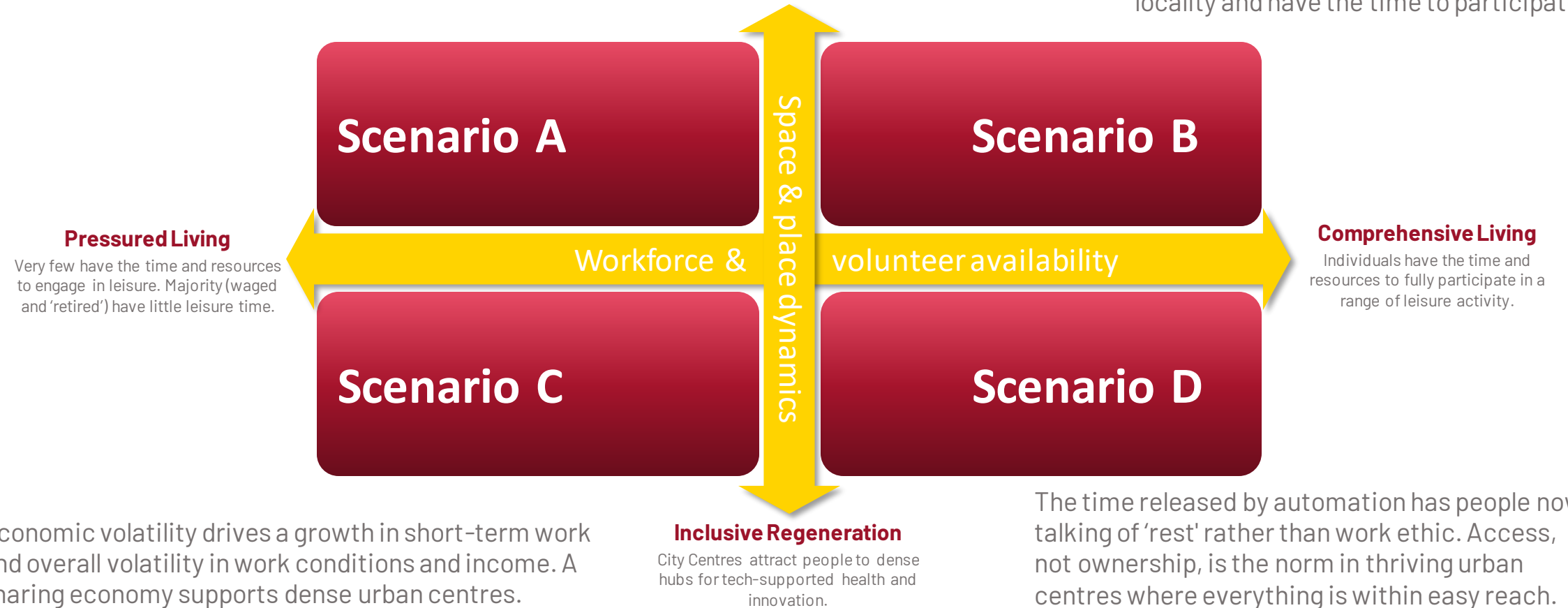
**Uncertainties: Work force and volunteer  
availability; space and place dynamics**

# Future Scenarios: Badminton

Growing "localism" sees pressure on suburbs outside CBD zones. Diverse leisure pursuits are generally online, ad-hoc and low cost.

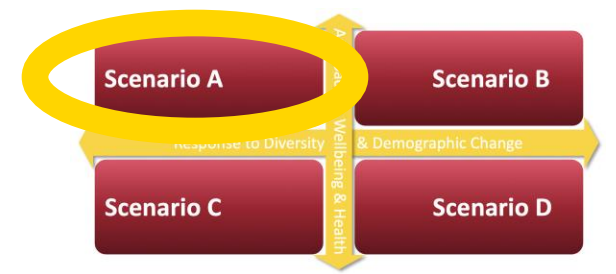
**Distributed Development**  
Development is uneven as work and shopping no longer draw people to centres.

Knowledge workers now routinely work from home and the city commute is a rarity for them. They are looking for leisure opportunities in their locality and have the time to participate.



# Scenario A

**Growing “localism” sees pressure on suburbs outside CBD zones. Diverse leisure pursuits are generally online, ad-hoc and low cost.**

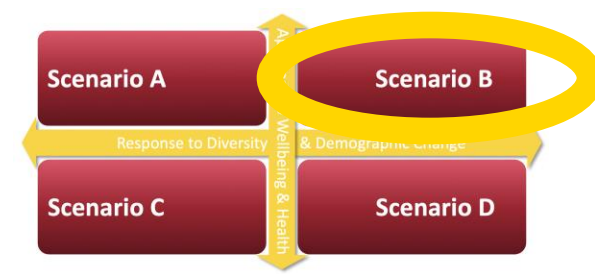


- The digital economy has continued accelerating, driven by online gaming and entertainment advances. The construction sector, too, has taken off with low-cost 3D-printed houses now commonplace that circumvent previous supply bottlenecks.
- Local authority strategies focus on building diverse environments to increase social and environmental resilience. The traditional NZ weatherboard house is increasingly making way for developments that include a mix of different-sized houses and apartments designed for young couples, students, the elderly, and families.
- The primarily individualistic nature of leisure preferences has meant that space allocated to poorly patronised activities is under extreme pressure. Preference is given to community facilities that can adapt to many uses. As a result, most suburban team-sport venues have either been repurposed or turned over to mixed housing development.
- For consumers, value for money and flexibility are prime drivers behind buying decisions in this volatile economic environment. In addition, those in employment often work long hours and sometimes multiple jobs. Consequently, leisure choices are typically home-based, especially given the range of affordable virtual reality technology now available.
- The 2D Zoom experiences of the early '20s are a pale reflection of the multi-dimensional metaverses available today. It means online social networks are as popular as ever, with the advances in visual technologies now enabling almost lifelike social interactions at a distance.
- Despite technological advances, working life takes up the majority of people's time. In addition, the 'unretirement trend' has depleted the number of elderly volunteers as many are forced back into work through a lack of savings.

# Scenario B

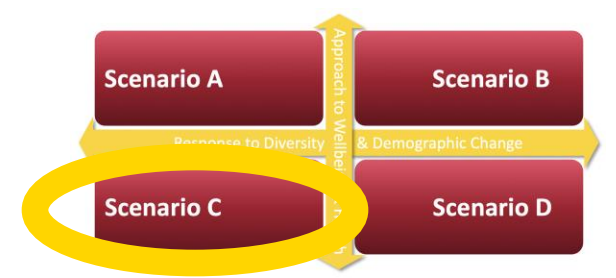
Knowledge workers now routinely work from home and the city commute is a rarity for them. They are looking for leisure opportunities in their locality and have the time to participate.

- New Zealand has become an attractive place to settle and work as the wider world continues to experience regular crisis events. Consequently, migration has increased substantially, and many innovative organisations have staff working remotely around the country delivering global products. As a result, the variety of roles and skills has also risen significantly to the local economy's benefit.
- Time-wealthy individuals (now the majority) have driven the growth in demand for activities that enable social interaction within their local communities. As travel patterns have changed in response to emissions-reduction initiatives, and on-line shopping outpaces traditional retail, inner-city buildings have been re-purposed to take advantage of the demands of these local community needs, including the rise of new recreation space.
- Increasing local diversity has driven demand for a broader range of local activities, which are supported by significant volunteer activity.
- Those communities that have retained or developed vibrant mixed social environments are unaffordable to many as housing demand outstrips supply. Less developed neighbourhoods have kept a 'dormitory' feel but with limited amenities, are falling behind in the remote work revolution.
- Movements between urban areas have decreased substantially, and bicycles, scooters and walking are increasingly the preferred options in community neighbourhoods. In addition, personal vehicle ownership has declined as people turn to on-demand and public transport services for regional travel.
- There's a less defined sense of cohesion around the urban environment as mixed-use blurs the traditional zoning definitions. This has increased the planning challenge as former transport and living patterns radically change and become less clear-cut.



# Scenario C

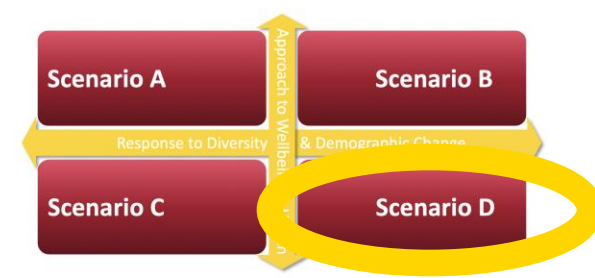
**Economic volatility drives a growth in short-term work and overall volatility in work conditions and income. A sharing economy supports dense urban centres.**



- The concentration of people and infrastructure in urban centres has enabled new 6G applications to be maximised to monitor and manage many aspects of daily life. The extent to which individuals can choose to be a part of this depends on their wealth. However, significant opportunities to use advanced technologies are now available to many that can proactively monitor health and wellbeing. The options range from basic digital tracking of vital signs to sophisticated soft robotics.
- However, with pressures on the physical space of urban centres, spending time engaged in physical leisure activities is increasingly restricted to the more affluent. With little leisure 'down-time', personalisation is the order of the day, with consumption of AI-generated music and video tailored to individual web-monitored brain patterns proving popular. In addition, a range of avatar-based services are available, from anticipatory online shopping to personal therapy subscriptions.
- Owning stuff is therefore regarded as a quaint concept as most retail and leisure activities revolve around the digital environment, and few have the space for physical possessions.
- The majority reliant on wage income must stay connected to the digital world as employment opportunities constantly change. Within work, 'tattleware' is routinely deployed to monitor employees' time and productivity. Many find this 'always on' world wearing, but it's now an almost unremarkable component of working life.
- Concentrating in metro centres has increased the opportunity gap between rural and urban communities. The vastly superior urban digital coverage that underpins critical services and applications is patchy at best in rural New Zealand.
- However, some see this as a positive, with a significant proportion of the population keen to opt out entirely and reject the technology-centric society. Many are looking for opportunities outside the urban centres where the pace of life is more measured and offline. It also feels more secure and less precarious. After all, in the main centres where individuals (particularly the younger generations) own very little, life can all feel very transient, superficial, and fragile.

# Scenario D

The time released by automation has people now talking of a 'rest' rather than work ethic. Access, not ownership, is the norm in thriving urban centres where everything is within easy reach.



- Automation has disrupted the employment landscape, but the remaining jobs and a slew of new ones are now centred around the core human skills of creativity and empathy.
- With the older generation expanding, there has been a corresponding focus on the care economy. The pandemic's legacy and heightened environmental awareness have led people to value relationships and community over consumption-based status.
- Multi-generational living arrangements are now commonplace and ensure mutual support across communities. In addition, councils have embraced the '15 minute city concept' that aims to provide people access to all they need within their immediate neighbourhood.
- Through increasing environmental concern, people generally buy less material products and instead look for experiences and activities that contribute to community wellbeing.
- Transport is one area of radical transformation, with the levels of private car ownership dropping dramatically. New Zealand's urban centres now offer digital, clean, intelligent, autonomous and intermodal mobility, with more walking and cycling spaces, where transport is commonly provided as a service.
- In addition to avoiding previous generations' car repayments, rebalancing the tax system toward assets has also enabled many more people to experience financial security. After initially heated debates, it is generally acknowledged as a significant contributor to New Zealand communities' new sense of wellbeing. The metrics bear this out, with improving mental and physical health levels. Individuals are also encouraged to devote more time to support their local activities and neighbourhood development in recognition of its beneficial impact on broad societal health.
- The idea of the individual's "rest ethic" is now seriously debated. It reflects a new emphasis on the wise use of leisure time for personal development as a critical skill supporting personal effectiveness.