

# HOLD POSITIONS ASIDE

## A TOOL TO ENCOURAGE MORE OPEN MINDS

This can be used as a preface to any minds-made-up activity

### Behaviour I'm anticipating

People focused only on their view and unable to listen to, or value, alternative perspectives.

### Behaviour I really need

Engaged and curious, valuing, respecting and learning from all perspectives.

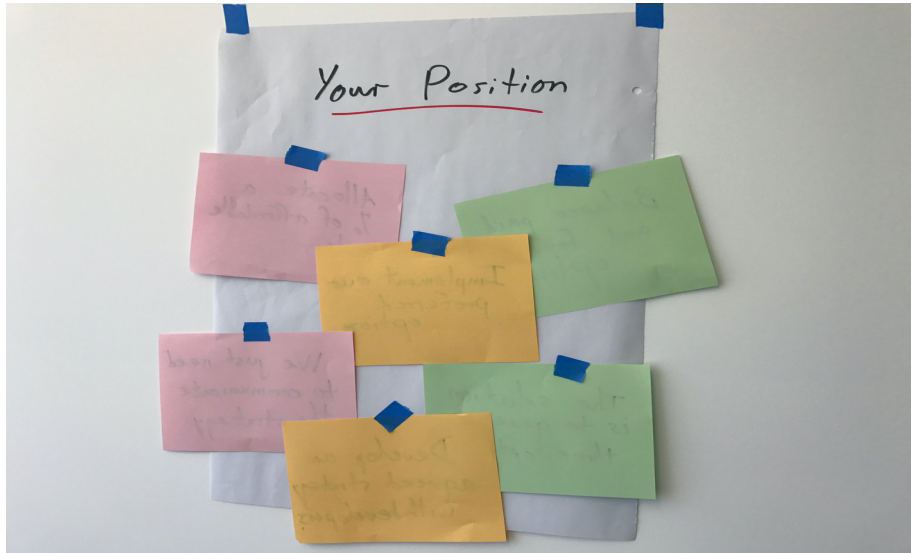
## What you are trying to do here

- + Draw out any ideas from people who may have made up their minds on a fixed position and can't move past it.
- + What you are **really doing** here is giving people a way to hold aside their strongly-held opinion, creating a place where they can explore alternative views.

## Preparation

- + Consider whether you will use this activity prior to any of the other activities you've been offered by Doo+Bee
- + Consider how you can best explain the intention of this activity to everyone in the meeting using your own words.

# Instructions



- 1** Write very clearly the words ‘Your Position’ and post on a wall, window or whiteboard so it is visible to everyone but not obvious.
- 2** Invite everyone to write down any firmly held positions/solutions/desired outcomes they are bringing to the meeting.
- 3** Ask them to post their response(s) to the wall under “Your Position”
- 4** These can be posted either FACE DOWN or FACE UP, depending on whether you want to keep the positions right out of sight, or just out of focus.
- 3** Tell everyone that these ideas are now in the room, but put aside to free people up to consider other ideas.
- 4** Throughout the remainder of the meeting remind people, if necessary, that those ideas are ‘over there’ and will be brought back in later. For now we are exploring other possibilities.
- 5** At the end of the session, go back to the pre-existing ideas and have the group consider whether they need to be brought back into the discussion or whether the group has moved past them.