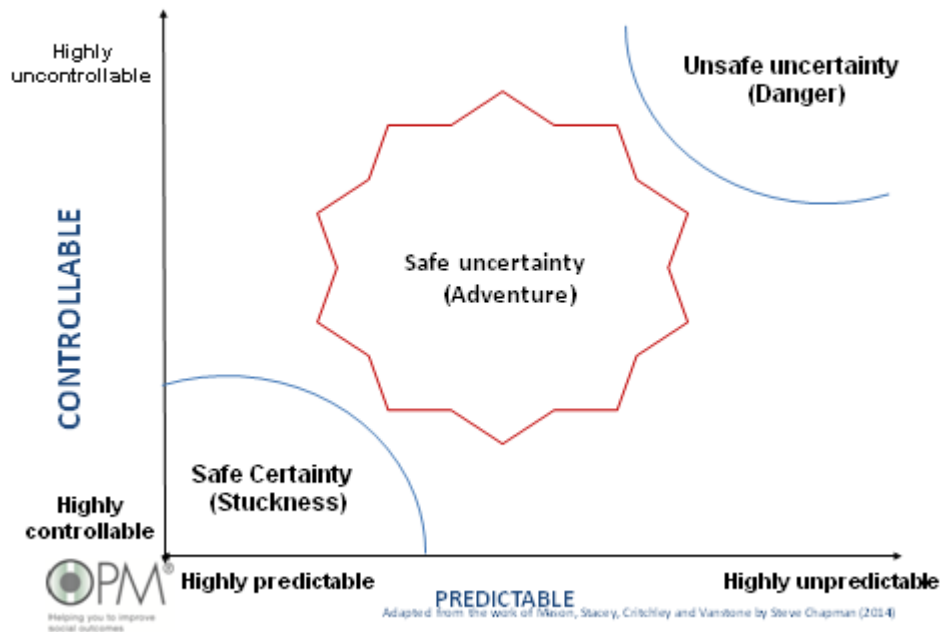


## SAFE UNCERTAINTY



Safe uncertainty is about feeling comfortable with the world of *just enough-ness*. It is about having just enough structure, just enough control and just enough planning to mitigate only the biggest of risks whilst leaving enough fluidity, spontaneity and freedom to welcome new possibilities. In systems leadership terms, a culture of safe uncertainty is one where you/others are encouraged, within negotiated parameters, to try something new to support a shift in the system and if it doesn't work, to embrace the learning from the experience.

A team who are comfortable with safe uncertainty are great at predicting and planning but also skilful at adapting and improvising, stretching their boundaries and staying curious. Finding your own unique place of safe uncertainty, helps you to say 'yes' more and challenge your habitual 'no'.

- *What are you prepared to let go of?*
- *What are the small, modest experiments you can undertake to gently move into the fertile safe uncertainty zone?*

### Say 'YES' to the Mess

Let go	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitually saying 'no'</li> <li>• Over-analysing whether yes is a good idea or not</li> <li>• Craving safe certainty</li> </ul>
Be more	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spontaneously 'yes'</li> <li>• Friendly with the 'mess'</li> <li>• Comfortable with safe uncertainty</li> </ul>
Experiment by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gradually saying 'yes' more</li> <li>• Taking small steps that stretch your leadership edge</li> </ul>

Adapted from 'Can Scorpions Smoke?' Creative Adventures in the Corporate World (2014) by Steve Chapman