



# Workable Ranges

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Penelope Aspinall Jonathan's Voice

www.jonathansvoice.org.uk

Registered Charity 1180424



#### Introduction to Jonathan's Voice



Jonathan was a patent attorney in Bristol. On the outside, life appeared to be going well. But a month after his 35th birthday he tragically took his own life on 30th October 2017. An "out of the blue" suicide. Sadly, he had been masking his mental health struggles very, very well.

Shortly after this tragic event his family founded Jonathan's Voice, now a registered charity, to promote better mental health in the workplace.



### What do we do?

- Because of our history we have a particular focus on the staff working in intellectual property sector and associated professions.
- We work alongside professional institutions, individual firms and CIPA, CITMA and IP Inclusive to help develop mentally healthy workplaces where all may thrive.
- We provide workshops, webinars and resources. As a charity, we can offer these free at the point of delivery.
- We also fund vital research into better understanding of male suicide and preventative steps.



All available to download free of charge from www.jonathansvoice.org.uk Workable Ranges A map and method for better balance and wellbeing

Sally Rose and Nicola Neath

MAPPING AND MONITORING Healthy balance and stress reactivity

## THE WORKABLE RANGE



**Higher threshold of tolerance** 

#### THE WORKABLE RANGE

**Dynamic Stability / integration** 

Window of tolerance / psychosocial safety

#### **Optimal for wellbeing, effectiveness and resilience**

- Feelings and reactions are tolerable and can be reflected on
- Thinking is more open flexible and creative
- We can take perspective, focus on workable and wise actions and adapt our responses to fit the situation

Lower threshold of tolerance



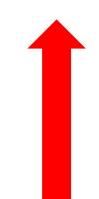
## **Our workable ranges**



#### **Higher threshold of tolerance**

- What is it like for us when we are in our workable range?
  - What do we notice in our bodies and minds?
  - How does it feel like?
  - How does it support our work?
  - What do others see?





Hyper arousal reactions and habits MOBILISATION – HIGHER ENERGY

- frazzled, overwhelm and panic
- fractured attention, racing thoughts
- agitation, impulsive
- anger-rage, frazzled
- hyper vigilance

**CHAOS** 

**FIGHT/FLIGHT** 

Comfortable, coherent calm higher energy

#### **WORKABLE RANGE** - window of tolerance and effectiveness

Comfortable, coherent calm lower energy

Hypo arousal reactions and habits IMMOBILISATION - LOWER ENERGY

- passive, lack of feelings, numb
- can't think or critical or pessimistic thoughts
- shut down, given in, can't protest

**RIGIDITY** 

FREEZE

#### What is it like when we cross our upper threshold?

**MOBILISATION THREAT REACTION** 

- What is it like for us when we are in a mobilised state? ٠
- What do we notice in our bodies and minds? •
- How do we feel? •
- How does it impact on us at work? What do others see? ٠

Comfortable, collected calm higher energy WORKABLE RANGE - WINDOW OF TOLERANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS

Comfortable, collected calm lower energy

**FREEZE** 

Hypo arousal reactions and habits **IMMOBILISATION -** LOWER ENERGY

**FIGHT/FLIGHT** 

RIGIDITY

#### What is it like when we cross our lower threshold?

Hyper arousal reactions and habits MOBILISATION –

**FIGHT/FLIGHT** 

Comfortable, collected calm higher energy WORKABLE RANGE - WINDOW OF TOLERANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS

Comfortable, collected calm lower energy

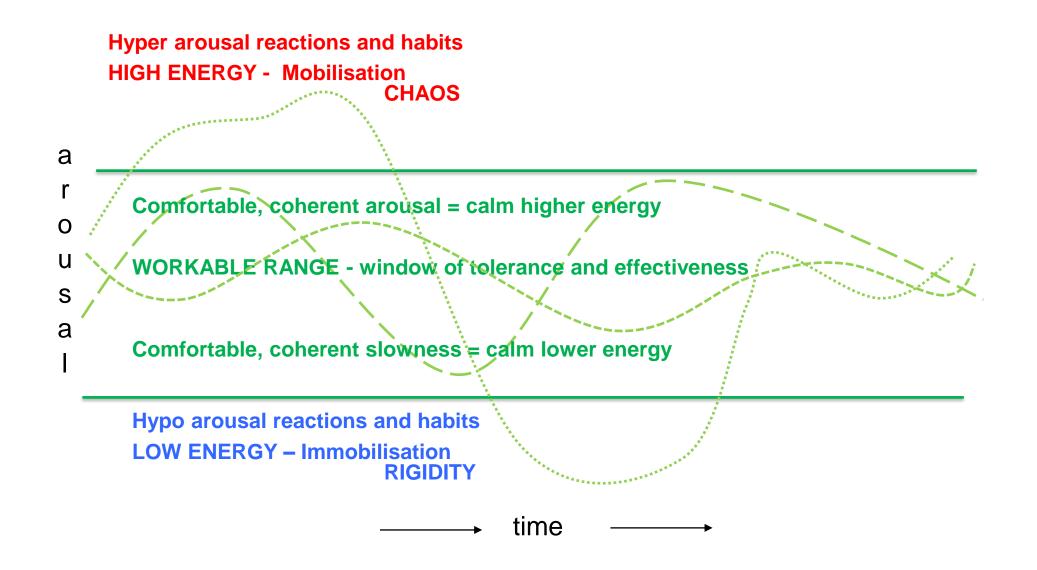
• What is it like for us when we are in a immobilised state?

FREEZE

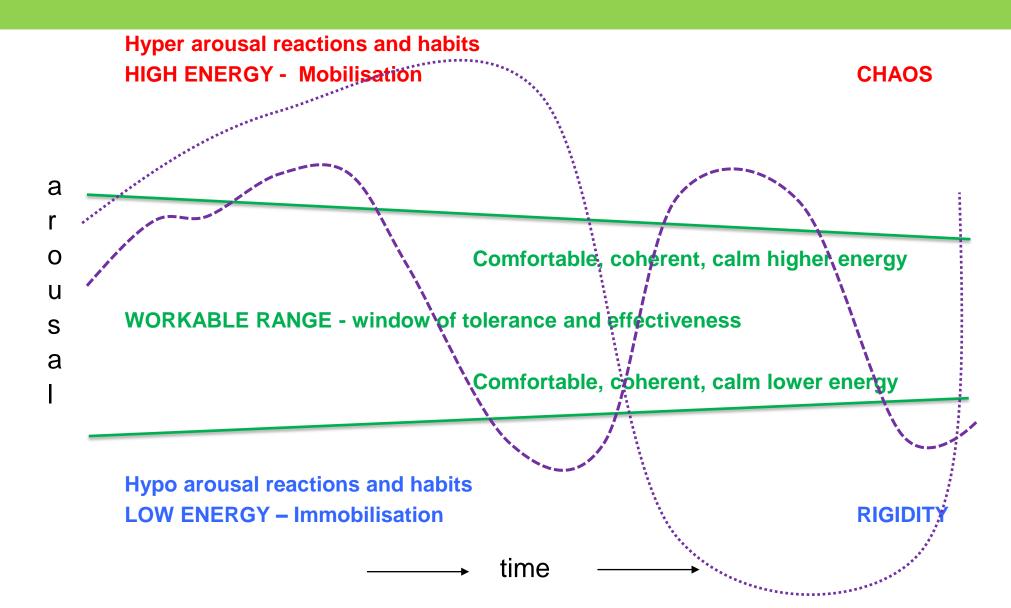
- What do we notice in our bodies and minds?
- How do we feel?
- How does it impact on us at work? What do others see?

IMMOBILISATION Hypo arousal reactions and habits

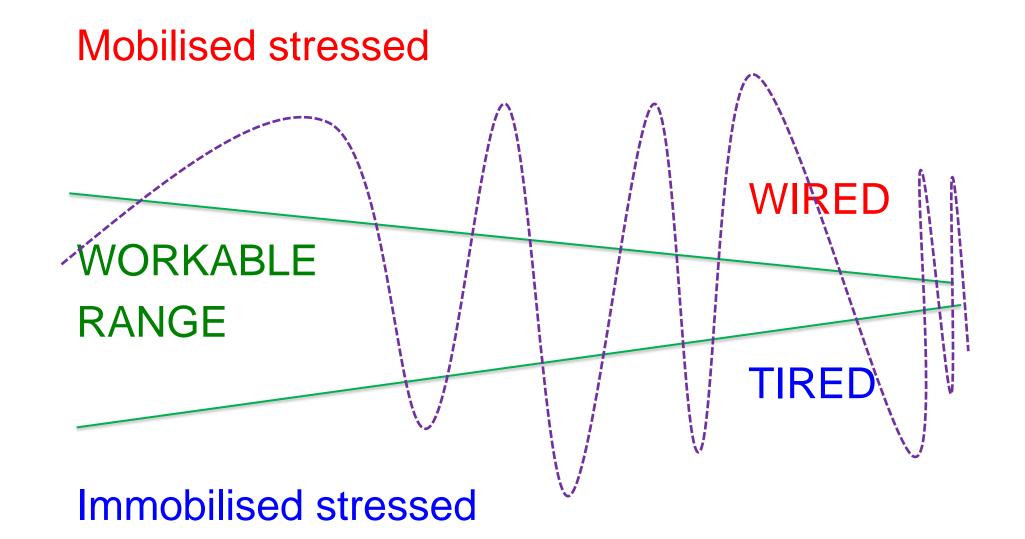
### Paths of regulated stress and emotion



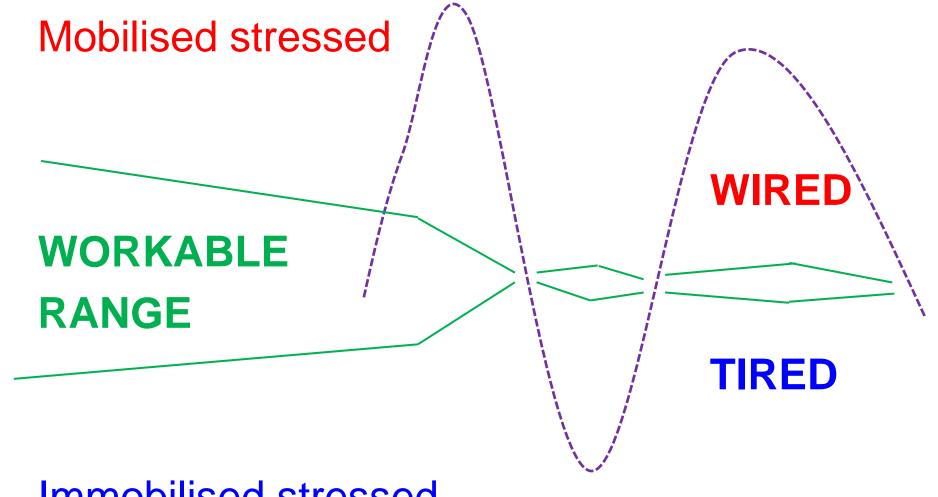
### Paths of dysregulated stress and emotion



#### Fluctuating, unworkable dysregulation



### **Pinch points**



**Immobilised stressed** 

## **PERSONAL REFLECTIONS**

# PLOTTING and TRACKING ON THE WORKABLE RANGES MODEL / MAP



# destabilisers and

balancers

# Ideas for stabilisation and restoring regulation

#### **HIGH ENERGY - Threat based Mobilisation**

Breathing out letting go Non threatening down regulation Safe self or social engagement – body awareness Calming - slowing down movements

#### WORKABLE RANGE dynamic stability

Breathing in Uplift – vitality Non threatening up regulation Safe self or social engagement – body awareness Energising and enlivening movements

LOW ENERGY – Threat based Immobilisation

FREEZE RIGIDITY

**CHAOS** 

**FIGHT/FLIGHT** 



#### Where to get help

- Your GP or practice nurse, especially if you have physical symptoms that need checking out; in a crisis call 111, 999 or go to A & E
- Hub of hope <u>https://hubofhope.co.uk/</u>
- Your line manager, supervisor or colleague
- Human Resources
- Mental Health First Aider or Mental Health champion
- Employee Assistance Programme, if you have one
- For student members of CIPA, there's also the Informals' MHFAer support line via informalswelfare@gmail.com (see <u>https://yellowsheet.wordpress.com/access-to-mental-health-first-aiders-and-support-helplines/).</u>
- LawCare <u>https://www.lawcare.org.uk/</u> 0800 279 6888
- Samaritans <a href="https://www.samaritans.org/">https://www.samaritans.org/</a> 116 123
- Calmzone <u>https://www.thecalmzone.net/</u> 0800 585858



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- Email us: info@jonathansvoice.org.uk
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