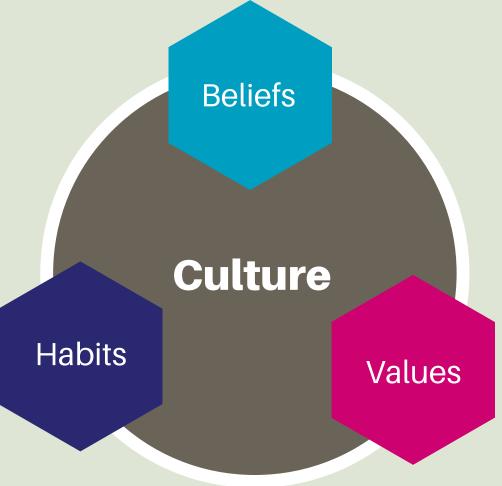
3 insights to understand the "corporate culture gap" phenomenon



1: If perceived habits and communicated values don't fit together, we notice a gap

Beliefs **Culture** Espoused strategies, Habits goals & justifications -Values happening on a conceptual level A culture gap occurs if there is a difference between what the organisation claims to be important and what people observe in their

Observable patterns of

day-to-day work.

interaction - "the way

we do things round

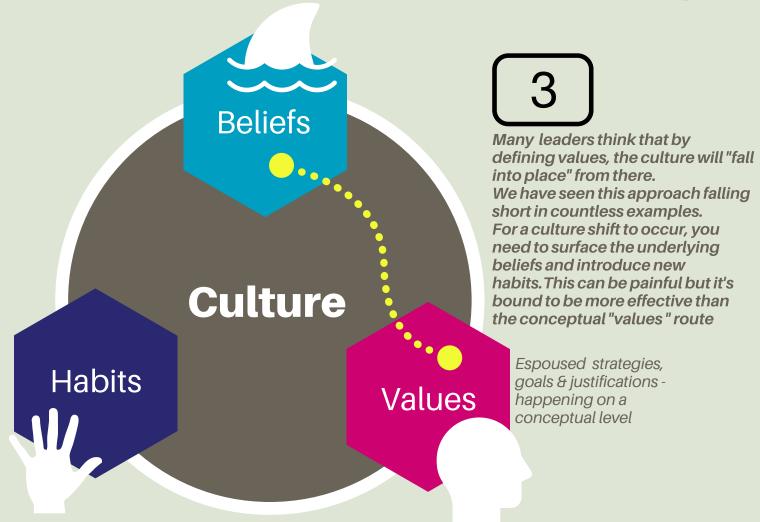
here"

Graph adapted from: The surprising powers of Liberating Structures by Henri Lipmanowicz, Keith McCandless, 2013

2: Habits are not shaped by values but by "subconscious contracts"

Unexamined, taken for granted assumptions such as "our leaders are special and cannot be challenged" Beliefs The habits in an organisation are driven and reinforced by beliefs and unwritten rules. These rules form unconscious contracts that are strong enough to overwrite anything that happens on a conceptual, conscious level ("values") **Culture** Habits Values

3: Working on culture through values alone has little impact



3 insights to understand the "corporate culture gap" phenomenon

2

Unexamined, taken for granted assumptions such as "our leaders are special and cannot be challenged"

Habits

The habits in an organisation are driven and reinforced by beliefs and unwritten rules. These rules form unconscious contracts that are strong enough to

overwrite anything that happens on a conceptual, conscious level

Observable patterns of interaction - "the way we do things round here"

A culture gap occurs if there is a difference between what the organisation claims to be important and what people observe in their day-to-day work. Beliefs

Culture

Values

3

Many leaders think that by defining values, the culture will "fall into place" from there.
We have seen this approach falling short in countless examples.
For a culture shift to occur, you need to surface the underlying beliefs and introduce new habits. This can be painful but it's bound to be more effective than the conceptual "values" route

Espoused strategies, goals & justifications happening on a conceptual level