Strategic Policy Futures Thinking Agenda

Futures Thinking 2 Day Agenda

Futures Thinking an Introduction
The value of the sandbox
Flexing the system
Horizons model
Linking futures and foresight to the policy and strategy cycle

Futures Thinking key principles
Identifying ambition
Scoping and scale
Engagement – who do we involve

Pathways
Meeting specific business need
Exploring underlying issues or causes when scoping or defining a policy area
Determining a vision for a new policy area
Testing policy options for an existing policy area under time constraints
Testing policy options for a new policy area
Exploring and communicating the complexity of a situation
Identifying futures research and evidence priorities
Identifying and prioritising future opportunities and threats for action

Futures Intelligence Gathering
Horizon Scanning and the PESTLE framework
Seven Questions (including Shell and SAMI versions)
From Clairvoyant to Epitaph
The Issues Paper
Delphi – facilitation and engagement

The dynamics of change
Driver Mapping and the PESTLE framework
Effective responses to complex situations
Calibrating certain and uncertain outcomes
Axes of Uncertainty
Identifying and prioritising drivers for change
Producing a scenario matrix

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Describing Potential Futures
Scenario narratives
Visioning and shared aspiration
SWOT analysis

Testing Strategy and Policy
Stress testing policy
Robustness, Redundancy, Modification and FFP
Risk analysis – BP's long term risk model
Backcasting - connecting the future to the present
Roadmapping - connections, relationships and causal links

Model evaluation
Qualitative outcomes