

**Programme for October 12-16**  
***Investing in an Uncertain Future:***  
**Linking Quantitative and Qualitative methods in Futures Analysis**

This week of activities is part of the Institute for Advanced Studies programme “Investing in an Uncertain Future”, and focuses on the development of techniques and methodologies to better link quantitative and qualitative methods in analyzing the future in support of policy.

The week takes Food futures as a theme, based on the recent Scottish Government Food and Drink Policy *Access, Affordability and Security*, the UK Government policy statement *Food Matters: Towards a Strategy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, and the Chatham House report *Food Futures: Rethinking UK Strategy*.

Speakers include Food policy experts David Atkinson (former Vice Principal Scottish Agricultural College, and convenor of recent Workstream on *Access, Affordability and Security* developing Scottish Government Food and Drink Policy), Alistair Prior (Scottish Government Food and Drink Division) and Chris Foster (Manchester Business School). Alongside the food policy experts, a number of different experts in futures analysis will discuss how their methodologies generate insights into the issues. Experts include Anders Eriksson (FOI, Swedish Defence Research Agency), Oliver Sparrow (Challenge Network Forum), Kees van der Heijden (Emeritus Prof of Scenario Planning, Strathclyde University), Alan Renwick (Scottish Agricultural College) and Phil Jones (DSTL)

To participate in the event (single day participation is possible) please email Matthew Revie at [matthew.j.revie@strath.ac.uk](mailto:matthew.j.revie@strath.ac.uk).

The meeting has been organised by Fran Ackerman, Tim Bedford, George Burt, Colin Eden, Simon French, Peter McKiernan and Kim Swales, and will take place at the Institute for Advanced Studies, James Weir Building, University of Strathclyde, 75 Montrose Street, Glasgow, G1 1XJ.

The reports can be found at

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/06/25143814/0>

[http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/strategy/work\\_areas/food\\_policy.aspx](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/strategy/work_areas/food_policy.aspx)

<http://www.chathamhouse.org.uk/publications/papers/view/-/id/695/>

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Chair: Peter McKiernan</b>
1.00-2.00	Coffee/Lunch/Networking
2.00-5.00	<p>Introduction and outline of week ahead.</p> <p>Presentation from problem owners/domain experts.</p> <p>Alistair Prior (Scottish Government, Food and Drink Division)  Chris Foster (Manchester Business School)  David Atkinson (former Vice Principal Scottish Agricultural College, and convenor of recent Workstream developing Scottish Government Food and Drink Policy)</p> <p>Q&amp;A from groups</p> <p>Introduction to different perspectives. Potential for round robin of each perspective with initial thoughts</p> <p>Wrap up and summary</p>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Chaired by Colin Eden</b>
Morning	Opportunity for each perspective team to develop initial thoughts. Groups should suggest “key variables” for overall issue and develop links between key variables. In addition, groups should identify which methodologies are appropriate for each key variables.
12.30-1.30	Lunch/discussion
1.30-5.00	Groups continue working on identifying a couple of key variables for which there are a number of different methods and attempt to understand whether the methods give the same type of understanding or not. Groups will identify one key variable, agree a problem owner and then work on it. From there, the groups will bring together their insights.
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Chaired by Simon French</b>
9.30-12.30	<p>Presentation by Anders Eriksson (FOI, Swedish Defence Research Agency)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing background to his approach to modelling</li> <li>• Comments re health issues</li> </ul> <p>Presentation by Alan Renwick (Scottish Agricultural College)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing background to his approach to modelling</li> <li>• Comments re health issues</li> </ul> <p>Group work building in insights from presentation material &amp; Tuesday plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Clear milestone/deliverable: what would tell the client if he now walked in the door?</i></li> </ul>
12.30-1.30	Lunch and further discussion
1.30-5.00	<p>Presentation by Oliver Sparrow (Challenge Network Forum)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing background to his approach to modelling</li> <li>• Comments re health issues</li> </ul> <p>Group work building in insights from presentation material and Tuesday plus</p>

	<i>Clear milestone/deliverable: what would tell the client if he now walked in the door?</i>
6.30	Dinner
<b>Thursday</b>	Chaired by Colin Eden
9.30-12.30	<p>Presentation by Phil Jones (DSTL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing background to his approach to modelling</li> <li>• Comments re the health issues</li> </ul> <p>Group work building in insights from presentation material and Tuesday plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Clear milestone/deliverable: what would tell the client if he now walked in the door?</i></li> </ul> <p>Presentation by Kees van der Heijden (Emeritus Prof of Scenario Planning, Strathclyde University)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing background to his approach to modelling</li> <li>• Comments re health issues</li> </ul> <p>Group work building in insights from presentation material and Tuesday plus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Clear milestone/deliverable: what would tell the client if he now walked in the door?</i></li> </ul>
12.30-1.30	Lunch
1.30-4.30	<p>Review of case by external body</p> <p>Review of deliverables – synthesising milestones created.</p>
<b>Friday</b>	Chaired by Tim Bedford
9.30-11.00	<p>Research outcomes and dissemination proposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updates on who is interested in publishing in special issue</li> <li>• November events</li> <li>• FAN club</li> </ul>