



# Martin Rhisiart

## Developing Futures Literacy in Wales: the Wales Futures Network

## Datblygu Llythrennedd Dyfodolion yng Nghymru: Rhwydwaith Dyfodolion

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# Developing Futures Literacy in Wales: the Wales Futures Network

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Concerned with understanding how different futures can be shaped by the present context and decisions





Futures is not about forecasting one future

Futures is pluralistic, non-linear and non-deterministic

Possible

Probable

Preferred - normative

# Knowledge foundations

Uses theories and concepts derived from economics, sociology, engineering, psychology, physics, strategy and other disciplines

Futures is a purposefully synthetic and holistic endeavour that harnesses multiple perspectives and concepts



Making sense of  
what might emerge

Futures is a process  
for making sense of  
complexity and  
uncertainty – for  
organisations and  
individuals

# Information – ‘evidence’?

The background of the slide is a blurred image of a financial chart. It features a candlestick pattern in the upper right quadrant and a bar chart in the lower left quadrant. A mouse cursor is visible, pointing to a specific data point in the candlestick chart. The chart has a grid and some numerical labels like '6.5', '6', and '5.5' on the right side, and '35000', '30000', '25000', '20000', and '15000' on the bottom right. The word 'Price' is written vertically on the right edge, and 'Time' is written vertically at the bottom right.

Trends and their impact

Theories

Forecasts and models

Expert views

Stakeholders/ target audience

Weak signals

Wild cards

# Integration not substitution

Futures is not about substituting planning, management or approaches derived from single approaches

Rather, it is about integrating knowledge – quantitative, qualitative etc to produce creative and anticipatory approaches



# Common uses of futures

	Public	Comp	NGO/ 3 <sup>rd</sup> sec
New policy or strategy			
Entering new market			
Making an investment decision			
Facilitating social or economic change			
Challenging mindsets – stimulate some fresh thinking			

# Becoming futures literate

A photograph of a sunset or sunrise. The sun is a bright, glowing orb partially obscured by the dark silhouettes of trees. The sky is a warm, golden-yellow color, and the trees are dark against the bright light. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

Using concepts and techniques to help understand possible, probable and preferred futures

# Tools

Scenarios

Delphi

Trend analysis

Horizon scanning

Visioning

Future workshops



- Home
- The Project
- Partners
- Futures Toolkit
- Blog
- Conference



# Futures for Regional Development

FUTURREG project is designed to support regional development policies - and regional development - by providing high-quality futures tools and resources.

Download  
FUTURREG Toolkit  
Work in Progress!

- Learn about the project
- Download the Toolkit
- Meet the partners

## Project's Objectives

- The FUTURREG project aims:
- To develop a common futures toolkit, that can be used in all EU regions.
  - To increase the use of futures tools.

## Project's Activities

### FUTURREG Toolkit

The first version of the FUTURREG Toolkit is available for download. [Download](#) (PDF file, 54 pages, 385KB)



Wales Futures Network is a mechanism for exploring themes from a futures approach, exchanging knowledge - derived from various disciplines and viewpoints – and developing futures literacy in Wales.

2007

Climate Change

Welsh language,  
culture and  
economic  
development

2008