

Horizon Scanning for an Uncertain Future

While it is not possible to predict the future, many public bodies use horizon scanning to detect signals of change and trends. This enable them to prepare appropriate response should the change materialise. This means public bodies won't be unprepared to seize opportunities or mitigate threats. As the Board need to provide directions and leadership, it is vital that senior leaders understand horizon scanning and are able to interpret findings and insights. This will help the Board to make important decisions and ensure that the public body remain prepared for an uncertain future.

Horizon Scanning for an Uncertain Future is one out of many online virtual courses within our [Accountability & Governance](#) series. At the [Civil Service College](#), we tailor our courses to each attendee's role and organisations, ensuring that each delegate gets the most out of the training. Our courses and trainers are continuously updated and evaluated to ensure that we are always delivering the best service possible.

Methodology

The training approach to be used, which governs the design and delivery of the training is based on the following principles:

- Actively involving the participants throughout the training
- Enabling participants to share their thoughts and questions
- The training is designed based on the needs and expectations of the participants that are reflected in the pre-training questionnaire

Workshop methods and tools

In order to achieve the objectives of the training, the following tools and methods will be utilised:

- **Presentations:** presentations will be used in order to provide the background of each subject and create discussion and questions.
- **Discussions:** the course will be very interactive, and we will draw on examples from the delegates' own organisations within the course.
- **Case studies:** case studies will be used so as to facilitate and trigger discussion, as well as allow external benchmarking so as to achieve competitiveness
- **Group work:** group work will be used in order to facilitate practical understanding of the issues and in order to enhance team working, team building and cooperation amongst participants

Sample programme

10.00 Registration/Introductions

9.15 What is Strategic Planning and why do we need to use it?

- Definitions
- Megatrends & global change
- The effects of working in an ever-changing environment

10.15 Looking at your own organisation

- What do we need to take account of when planning
- How can we Strategic Planning without using a lot of resource?

11.00 Break

11.15 Methodologies for Strategic Planning

- Looking at a variety of approaches and tools
- Examples from various industries

11.45 Applying the methods to your own organisation

- Which tools might work best?
- Opportunities and challenges in your own sphere

12.30 Tools for evaluation Strategic Planning

Questions

13.00 Close