



F O R T H O U G H T

**Science, innovation, and national priorities:
Deciding the future of food, education,
and health**

Tuesday 14 November 2023
1 Moorgate Place, London



Welcome to For Thought

We're delighted to welcome you to For Thought this year, a one-day event hosted by the British Science Association (BSA), for leaders across business, science, policy and civil society to catalyse progress towards solving our biggest challenges.

For Thought explores the intersections between science and innovation, and the rest of society. It provides unique opportunities for leaders from both within and outside of the traditional science and innovation space to share, debate, and form collaborations.

The programme facilitates cross-sector discussions on some of the most pressing global issues, such as pandemics, the climate crisis, cyber and food security threats and the future of nascent technologies.

It is a place to hear about cutting-edge developments, share your perspective and connect with individuals from outside of your day-to-day networks.

We hope you gain interesting insights and new perspectives today.

Hilary Newiss & Lord David Willetts

For Thought co-chairs

Agenda

10:00	Arrivals and coffee
11:00	Welcome Alok Jha
11:05	Opening remarks Gaia Vince and Gilliant Tett
11:25	Chapter 1: The future of education Followed by on-table discussions
12:45	Provocation on education and skills Anne-Marie Imafidon
13:00	Lunch
13:55	Scene setting talk Natalie Banner
14:10	Chapter 2: The future of health Followed by on-table discussions
15:20	Coffee and networking break
15:40	Chapter 3: The future of food Followed by on-table discussions
16:45	Closing remarks Lord David Willetts
17:00	Drinks reception



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With thanks to our partners

Chapter 1: The future of education

In the past 12 months, advances in 'large language models' (AI technologies which understand and generate text) have accelerated discussions on the impact of AI on education and skills.

How do we provide people with the skills to take advantage of AI? How should our education system change in a digital age?

Speakers:

Caitlin Bentley, Lecturer in AI Education, Kings College London

Mary Curnock Cook, Chair, Pearson Ltd

Praful Nargund, Education and skills campaigner

Anthony Seldon, Author and Head, Epsom College

Provocation from **Anne-Marie Imafidon**, CEO, Stemettes

Chapter 2: The future of health

Tackling “non-infectious” conditions (such as cancer, heart disease, diabetes, strokes, and chronic lung conditions) is key to improving the health and wellbeing of the UK, and addressing health inequalities.

Genomics, behavioural sciences, and use of data could all contribute to a healthcare system that is more focused on early intervention and the prevention of non-infectious conditions.

What are the benefits and risks of different approaches to prevention? How can the NHS be supported to translate innovations to treatments and services?

Speakers:

Indra Joshi, Director of AI, NHSX

Sharmila Nebhrajani, Chair, NICE

Cathie Sudlow, Deputy Director, Health Data Research UK

Rachel Sylvester, Chair, Times Health Commission

Scene setting talk from **Natalie Banner**, Director of Ethics, Genomics England

Chapter 3: The future of food

People and communities across the UK are have been faced with rapidly increasing food costs and empty supermarket shelves in the early part of 2023, caused by combinations of climate shocks, energy prices, and labour shortages.

Public health experts, the farming community, major retailers, and hospitality leaders have all signalled that we need to rethink the way the UK produces, imports, and sells food.

How should our food system change in the face of the climate crisis, increased energy costs, and cost-of-living pressures?

Speakers:

Balwinder Dhoot, Director of Sustainability, Food and Drink Federation

Anisha Fernandez, Author and podcaster, Naughty Bites

Tim Lang, Emeritus Professor, City University

Hannah Pathak, International Managing Director, Forum for the Future

Attendees

Abi Mohamed, Head of Marketing & Business Development, Extend Ventures

Adam Williams, Chief Executive, Intellectual Property Office (IPO)

Alasdair Thong, Venture Partner, Mubadala Capital

Alison Robinson, Deputy Executive Chair and Director of Business Delivery & Insight, Natural Environment Research Council (UKRI)

Alok Jha, Science and Technology Editor, The Economist

Amanda Begley, Director of Digital Transformation, Health Innovation Network South London

Amit Aggarwal, Medical Director

Andrew Bell, Chief Executive Officer, Witan Investment Trust plc

Andrew Cohen, Head of The Science Unit, BBC Studios

Anisha Fernandez, Author and podcaster, Naughty Bites

Annabel Sowemimo, Community Sexual & Reproductive Health Registrar, Author, King's College London

Anthony Costello, Professor of Global Health and Sustainable Development, University College London

Anthony Freeling, Former Acting Vice-Chancellor, University of Cambridge

Balwinder Dhoot, Director of Sustainability, Food and Drink Federation

Ben Spencer, Science Editor, The Sunday Times

Caitlin Bentley, Lecturer in AI Education, Kings College London

Carol Bell, Council Member, Research England

Caroline Firstbrook, Non-Executive Director, Lloyds Register Group

Cathie Sudlow, Deputy Director, Health Data Research UK

Chenelle Ansah, General Partner, LightPace VC

Attendees

Christina Adane, Campaigner and co-founder, CAPSULE Media

Christopher Smith, Executive Chair, Arts and Humanities Research Council (UKRI)

David Franklin, Chief Financial Officer, ICAEW

David Halpern, President and Founding Director, The Behavioural Insights Team

David Nutt, Professor of Neuropsychopharmacology, Imperial College London

David Rubens, Executive Director, Institute of Strategic Risk Management

Doug Wilson, Deputy Chief Executive and Science Director, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology

Dr Amrit Chandan, Chief Executive Officer, Acleron

Dr Andrew Bourne, Executive Director - Partnerships, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (UKRI)

Dr Catherine Chong, ESG Advisor, Consortium on Labelling for the Environment, Animal welfare and Regenerative farming

Dr Helen Pain, Chief Executive, Royal Society of Chemistry

Dr Jim Fleming, Head of Energy & Decarbonisation, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (UKRI)

Dr Natasha McCarthy, Associate Director, Engineering Policy, Royal Academy of Engineering

Dr Owen Jackson, Director of Policy, Cancer Research UK

Dr Vanessa Lawrence CB, Director, Location International

Emma Lindsell, Executive Director, Strategy, Performance and Engagement, UKRI

Attendees

Esra Erkal, EVP, Global Communications, Elsevier

Evelyn Haywood, Director of Education, Skills Builder Partnership

Evie Aspinall, Director, British Foreign Policy Group

Fidelity Weston, Chair, Consortium on Labelling for the Environment, Animal welfare and Regenerative farming

Gary Watson, Digital Skills Lead, Mazars

Georgina Collins, Director – Regulated Industry, Environment Agency

Giles Lane, Senior Programme Manager, Futures & Dialogue, Royal Academy of Engineering

Gwen Jones, Non-Executive Director, IWF Forum UK

Hannah Pathak, International Managing Director, Forum for the Future

Hannah Russell, Chief Executive, British Science Association

Heather King, Professor in Science Education, King's College London

Helen Lamprell, Chief Legal & Transformation Officer, AVEVA

Hilary Newiss, co-chair, For Thought, Chair of the British Science Association

Hitesh Thakrar, Chair, Health Innovation Network

Indra Joshi, Director of Research & AI, Palantir

Isabel Fox, General Partner, Outsized Ventures

James Cemmell, Vice President, Government Engagement, Viasat

Jessica Butcher MBE, Business Consultant / EHRC Commissioner, Sweatcoin Health

Attendees

Jim Smith, Emeritus Scientist at Francis Crick Institute, President at Zoological Society of London

Jo Trigg, Director of Communications & Engagement, Royal Academy of Engineering

Joe Vinson, Senior Consultant, Lexington

Jon Rutter, VP, Product & Solutions, Mastercard

Jonathan R Goodman, Writer and researcher, University of Cambridge

Jonathan Slater, Visiting Professor, King's College London

Julia Hobsbawm, Writer and broadcaster on the past present and future of work, Bloomberg Work Shift and The Nowhere Office Project

Julian Huppert, Director, Intellectual Forum, Jesus College, Cambridge

Karen Green, Portfolio Non-Executive Director, Phoenix Group plc

Kate Mingay, Infrastructure Senior Adviser and Non-Executive Director

Katie Pettifer, Director, Strategy and Regulatory Compliance, Food Standards Agency

Kelly Beaver, Chief Executive Officer UK & Ireland, Ipsos

Kieron Boyle, Chief Executive, Impact Investing Institute

Laurel Powers-Freeling, Chair, Uber UK

Lopa Patel, Chair, Diversity UK

Lord David Willetts, co-chair, For Thought

Lucy Heller, Chief Executive Officer, Ark

Lynne Berry, Chair, Human Tissue Authority

Margot James, Non-Executive Director, Vanquis Banking Group

Attendees

Marie Kane, VP Innovative Trials, Population Health Partners

Mary Creagh, Chair, Responsible Business Practice, Lexington

Mary Curnock Cook, Chair, Pearson Education Ltd

Matthew Rodger, Economist, Legal & General Investment Management

Michelle Morris, Professor of Data Science for Food, University of Leeds

Mike Cowen, Head of Product Excellence & Innovation – Europe, Mastercard

Mirit Eldor, Executive Vice President Strategy, Elsevier

Monika Biddulph, Non-Executive Director, AFC Energy plc, D4t4 Solutions plc, Ilika plc

Oonagh Harpur, Independent Non-Executive, KPMG UK LLP

Pam Chesters, Chair of Council, University of Bath

Patrick Middleton, Deputy Director, Engagement, UKRI

Patrick Schneider-Sikorsky, Partner, NATO Innovation Fund

Pauline Neville-Jones, Member House of Lords, House of Lords

Pierre Oliviere, Head of Futures Strategy, Intellectual Property Office

Praful Nargund, Education and skills campaigner

Prof Ajit Lalvani, Chair of Infectious Diseases, National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College London

Prof Guy Poppy, Executive Chair, Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (UKRI)

Rachel Sylvester, Chair, Times Health Commission

Ravi Gurumurthy, Chief Executive Officer, Nesta

Attendees

Riaz Bhunoo, Associate Director, Global Food Security Programme, Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (UKRI)

Richard Torbett, Chief Executive, ABPI

Rubina Ahmed, Director of Research Policy and Services, Blood Cancer UK

Rupert Pearce, Chairman, ESpace Networks Inc

Sabrina Li, Assistant Professor Quantitative Geography, University of Nottingham

Sally Osman, Trustee/Non-Executive Director, Our Future Health

Sam Lister, Director General, Strategy and Operations, Department for Culture, Media and Sport

Sarah Chaytor, Director of Research Policy and Strategy, University College London

Sarah Sands, Trustee, Science Museum

Sharmila Nebhrajani, Chair, NICE

Simon Laver, Non-Executive Director, Perrett Laver

Sir Anthony Seldon, Author and Head of Epsom College

Stephen Metcalfe, MP for South Basildon and East Thurrock

Tamsin Berry, Co-founder and partner, Population Health Partners

Tim Lang, Professor Emeritus Food Policy, City University

Tim Slingsby, Director of Skills and Education, Lloyd's Register Foundation

Tom Oliver, Research Dean for Environment, Professor of Applied Ecology, University of Reading

Vicky Pope, Chair, Mathematics in Education and Industry

Winston Morgan, Professor, University of East London



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