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Event Preview

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Transport Future 2050

Tuesday, 10th of June 2025
Regent's College, London NW1
Presentations and Discussion 9.30-6pm | Evening Reception 6-9.30pm

Breaking the mould of current thinking

Over the next dozen pages we introduce some of the background content to the forthcoming new Transport Future 2050 event, which will provide the opportunity to explore the likely context for transport decision-making over the next 25 years.

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Still time to book your place!
Visit the event website for full details

www.landorlinks.uk/future-2050

Special rates apply for LTT readers



Breaking the mould of current thinking



To set the scene for the Transport Future 2050 event next month, we explore ideas about how life is changing and where that may take us over the next 25 years.

We can't control the future- but it must surely help if we can imagine it

istory often tells us that we missed the signs , and ignored the warnings, of things to come . And that we just couldn't imagine all the consequences of continuing inevitable social, cultural, industrial and technological change .Sure, we cannot write the script , or control the way the future unfolds , but that doesn't mean we are without influence , or have the opportunity to anticipate what we are likely to be dealing with and minimise the impacts.

Severe climate events are one stark reminder: that if we don't come together around a deliverable shared vision for the future, a particularly unwelcome one may be shaped for us—whether we like it or not. As John Connor famously said in *The Terminator*, "The future has not been written. There's no fate but what we make for ourselves." Surely it is therefore worth some time and effort to explore our visions , and share thinking about the approaches we should best adopt to avoid being left behind by events.

In the lead-up to Future 2050, the new high-level transport conversation bringing together forward thinkers from academia, government, and industry, we've challenged three of event partner SYSTRA's leading experts to explore a range of thought-provoking future scenarios. These were carefully chosen to spark lively debate and inspire new thinking about the UK's long-term future, and transport's place in that.

At Future 2050, these three scenarios – and others – will be presented and explored to help provide insight and options that can guide the development of useful, relevant and cohesive visions for social, environmental, and transport policy that fits the 25 year pathway we are likely to be on from now to 2050. They are, of course, not mutually exclusive, nor cover all the potential avenues of human development. But we hope a taste of each of them here will help set the scene for some great discussion at the event on June 10th!

FUTURE ONE

Technology in charge

SYSTRA's Head of Innovation Llewelyn Morgan envisions a future transformed by technology.

In this future world, generative AI has matured into an omnipresent force, and quantum computing has unlocked unimaginable levels of processing power. Wearable tech, neural implants, and immersive virtual environments allow us to remain permanently connected - working, socialising, and learning in digital spaces where avatars stand in for physical presence.

The need to travel to meet others diminishes as virtual interaction becomes seamless and immersive. Autonomous transport dominates, and our cities and towns evolve to reflect this shift—designed for intelligent, coordinated, human-free mobility. Freed at last from the grip of hydrocarbons, every journey by land, air or otherwise is optimised for energy and time.

But in this hyper-efficient, AI-orchestrated world, where does that leave us?

What becomes of human spontaneity, creativity and expression, our music, art, and culture, the things that make life meaningful?

As we navigate this hybrid existence, steered by algorithms and nudged by digital cues, will we recognise what we've gained... and what we've lost?





Breaking the mould of current thinking

FUTURE TWO

Coping with calamity



SYSTRA's Director of Low Carbon Mobility David Connolly imagines a future shaped by environmental collapse and political centralisation.

In this scenario, every climate metric is flashing red. Successive record-breaking heatwaves push catastrophe closer with each passing summer, and the prospect of Mars-like conditions becomes a grim reality for vast swathes of the planet. The weakening Gulf Stream meanwhile plunges northern Europe into harsh, ice-age-style winters, while rising sea levels wreak havoc on coastal communities.

Food insecurity grows. Europeans face the looming threat of shortages, even famine, as agriculture buckles under climate pressure. In response, governments seize greater control over food and energy systems, shifting into war-like economies defined by

centralised power and rationed resources.

For ordinary citizens, private travel becomes a luxury few can afford, burdened by soaring costs and government-imposed restrictions. Personal freedom, how and where we work, live, and play, erodes in the face of state intervention. Even the wealthy are not immune, as survival demands conformity to a tightly managed, resource-scarce society.

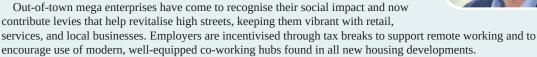
In this world, climate change is not a distant warning but a governing force that reshapes the very structure of everyday life.

FUTURE THREE

Life lived local

SYSTRA's Director, Andrew Archer, envisions a brighter, more localised future, one that could be realised within the next 25 years if the political will exists.

In this socially-shaped future, development is holistic and deeply integrated, designed to ensure that people have easy access to everything they need within their local area. Mixed-use planning is the norm, reducing the need to travel and enhancing quality of life.



The transport hierarchy starts with walking and cycling and only then considers public transport and, finally, private electric vehicles—whose role has been significantly reduced thanks to the dense and accessible nature of this new urban model.

This is not just a vision, it is a call to citizen-led action. With bold planning reform and targeted investment, local living could become the standard across the UK. Not one of many planning options, but the central principle of a new era that builds for people, not just places, while rectifying the missteps of recent decades.

SO what is the strongest prospect – and how will the different forces of change play out? We hope these contrasting scenarios help demonstrate the very different possible foundations on which transport planning will be undertaken in the next quarter century – and how we might need to plan for the emergence of some elements of them all.

Will a world dominated by AI and automation - à la John Connor in Terminator - reshape everything? Will escalating climate crises force dramatic restrictions on daily life? Or can we carve a path toward balance, sustainability, and resilience through provision for having the necessary open discussion across society today?

Perhaps, indeed, that very conversation about these potential outcomes can itself trigger steps to embrace, cope with or maybe avoid the very outcomes we forsee. It should at least, be worth the time to undertake a little careful scrutiny and reflection ...



Join Andrew, Llewelyn and David and amongst other leading thinkers and policy-makers from across the UK for Future Transport 2025 conference and summer evening networking event on Tuesday 10th June at Regent's College, London. There are still some places available to take part in this vital conversation.

Go to www.landorlinks.uk/future-2050 to ensure you will be there!

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Alternative thinking about transport for a different future

Deep Thinking Initiative

An invitation to a new high level summer transport discussion

Transport Future 2050 – Breaking the mould of current thinking

Tuesday, 10th of June 2025
Discussion 9.30-6pm Evening Reception 6-9.30pm

t the beginning of the year LTT launched an open discussion on the future of transport in our changing society. After a series of imaginative contributions we are now holding a new style summer event to put 'what if/why not' thinking centre stage for discussion, and explore the landscape on which a sustainable multi-element 25-year vision for transport planning and provision should be based.

This event will consider the possibilities and necessary responses to challenges that must be recognised and addressed under potential scenarios for transport through to 2050.



At Regent's College, London NW1

The Day's Event Agenda

Morning

09:30 - 10:30

Tea, coffee, and pastries served. Connect with fellow delegates ahead of the day.

10:30 - 10:50

Morning keynote.

10:50 - 11:30

Thinking Differently to Change the Trajectory
What needs to change about the way we think? What
assumptions must be challenged? Chaired by Peter
Stonham. Featuring contributors from the LTT Deep Thinking
Initiative and beyond

11:30 - 12:00

Tea and coffee served. An opportunity to reflect and connect.

12:00 - 13:00

Envisioning 2050: Possible Futures

A series of provocative future scenarios – from utopian to dystopian – designed to stimulate debate and challenge current thinking. Presentations including SYSTRA's three scenarios and more (approx. 10 mins each) Group discussion and interactive visual vote on which future feels most likely (including "none of the above")

13:00 - 13:10

Reflection from the Chair, followed by lunch

Afternoon

14:00 - 15:30

Breakout Workshops: *Getting There – The Path to 2050* Collaborative sessions exploring how we might arrive at (or avoid) the future scenarios discussed.

Each group tackles one future vision and addresses:

- •. What would you change about this future?
- How would we achieve it or stop it?
- What are the key drivers on the path ahead?

15:30 - 16:00

Tea, coffee and cakes

16:00 - 17:45

Plenary: Big Ideas to Take Away – Feedback & Forward Thinking

Each group shares their key insights and reflections. Audience Q&A and group discussion

Final interactive vote: Have perspectives shifted on the most likely future?

Closing Remarks, What Happens Next & Thank You

18:00 - 21:30

Outdoor Summer Reception Relaxed networking with food, drinks, and music in a beautiful summer setting - see next page.

Some of the expert contributors who will be participating



Glen Lyons L



Llewelyn Morgan



Georgia Yexley



David Connolly



Nicola Kane



e Pete Dyson



Kris Beuret



Alina Tuerk



Andrew Archer



Woods

How to book your place

Places are still available for this important event proving highly popular. Attendance will be prioritised for LTT readers who will receive a discount equivalent to their subscription rate on the event charge of £245 (including evening reception) so will pay just £180*. To reserve your place go to www.landorlinks.uk/future-2050 *All those paying the full price will received a free LTT subscription

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Alternative thinking about transport for a different future Deep Thinking Initiative

An Evening to Continue the Conversation

After a day of groundbreaking discussions and thought-provoking debates, join us for an exclusive Summer Evening Reception in a stunning outdoor setting. Unwind with great food, refreshing drinks, and entertainment, while engaging in big picture conversations with fellow attendees, speakers, and industry leaders. This relaxed networking opportunity will allow you to reflect on the day's ideas, forge new connections, and explore fresh perspectives in an informal and inspiring atmosphere.

This year's premium Outdoor Social & Networking Experience

An evening to spark new ideas, fresh thinking, and future-shaping conversations.

Join us for the Future 2050 Summer Evening Reception—a relaxed, highlevel networking event designed to keep the big ideas flowing long after the daytime discussions end.

Held in a beautiful outdoor setting with drinks, food, music, and curated prompts to the conversation, this new mid summer social evening for the local transport professional community offers a unique opportunity to connect informally with fellow change-makers, visionaries, and leaders in transport, planning, and policy. Whether you're continuing the debate from earlier in the day or joining us just for the evening, this event is a chance to exchange ideas, reflect on the future, and build valuable new relationships in an informal, inspiring, relaxing atmosphere.

What to Expect:

A vibrant crowd of transport thinkers, innovators, and decision-makers

Delicious food, drinks, and ambient music in a summer setting

Thought-provoking "conversation starters" to keep the ideas flowing

Light-touch provocations or mini brainstorms with guest contributors

The perfect space to recharge, reconnect, and reimagine what comes next

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LTT's Future 2050 Summer Evening Reception

Tuesday, 10th of June 2025 Regent's College, London NW1 Evening Reception 6-9.30pm

Who should attend the reception?

This event is ideal for professionals who thrive on ideas and dialogue. Whether you're a senior policymaker, private sector leader, creative planner, academic, or activist, the Summer Evening Reception offers inspiration, insight, and meaningful connection.

Evening only £125

LTT subscriber £80

Admission is included for all attendees at the daytime Future 2050 event

www.landorlinks.uk/future-2050

For sponsorship or group bookings contact at Jason.conboy@landor.co.uk or call 0207 091 7895



