**Social/public puzzles that R:2025 may wish to address via creative developments:**

A number of social puzzles act as a broad backdrop to the activities of Forward Thinking Developments. R:2025 forms the artistic exploration of them. Some likely propositions that might be addressed include:

* Groups of young people are proportionally underemployed and socially marginalised – with a sense that they might form a ‘lost generation’
* Some poor people are locked in mechanisms that ‘pump’ money away from them, towards the more rich and powerful: and they are then stigmatised for that
* Many good social intentions fade in their implementation
* Approaches to the provision of sufficient housing don’t appear to offer robust solutions
* Fundamentalist cultures can clash, intentionally or otherwise, to the detriment of those involved
* Some localities appear to be doomed forever not to flourish
* There are few ways of agreeing about ‘Value’ despite it being seen as important
* Children are growing up negatively affected by poverty – yet solutions seem to exist
* Future risks have been highlighted (re food, water, environment etc) – but there are few agreed ways forward for dealing with these
* Decision-makers are increasingly distanced from the situations about which they are being asked to decide
* Leaders and managers are expected to operate within contexts that are more flexible and contingent than the situations they have been prepared/trained for: so things don’t progress at the scale and pace possible
* Learning models lag behind learning needs and learning potentials – with too many intermediary influences interfering with possible progress
* Services are conceptualised, organised and delivered on the basis of what has happened in the past rather than what is needed in the future
* Knowledge of the ‘right ways forward’ is likely to be ambiguous and uncertain – the most that can be hoped for is ‘best yet’ understandings within particular contexts
* Storytelling is a valid way of planning in response to predicaments
* Anti-social activities (eg child abuse/neglect) constantly find new forms; but those responsible for countering it are left using outmoded tools to do the job
* Many things come down to the ‘individualised’ level; but are conceptualised/formulated at the ‘group’ level
* Notions of ‘public’ and ‘private’ are coalescing and becoming unreliable in their use

One way that R:2025 could start to address any of the above may be through an analysis in which each of the following aspects gets creatively explored:

* Here’s where we are …..
* Here’s what is pinning us there ……
* Here are some of the ideas and representations that sustain where we are ….
* Here are some alternative story-lines ……
* Here’s a route-map to help with thinking ways forward …..
* Here are different ideas and representations that may help in considering alternatives..
* Here are some of the practicalities if things are to change for people and places……

For any artistic enterprise to see itself as able to impact on a broad range of issues such as those listed above is both unusual and ambitious, and ultimately may prove to be beyond what is possible in reality. There is no ready-made methodology for testing the various proposals and the capacity of R:2025 to impact on them. Finding a way forward is a strong part of the commitments being made.