Degeneration is the flipside to regeneration
Degeneration not the cause of what’s gone wrong, it’s systematic of mass market capitalism (and the forces of such)
Degeneration happens not by accident but a set of decision making by business – it’s a triumph of big business. Plays into the hands of corporate set
Retailers good at manipulating/threat to jobs
Regeneration is big business for corporate power – Degeneration we still don’t understand what’s going on in big business and the corporate state. What happens because of possibility of government state

Challenge/ Expose – What happens?

Independence or not – things will change
We are at a stage where things are so bad – we’ve done de-growth i.e. 3 days of work (can’t use deep freezers), drive 2 days a week. Need to be centralist in the way we work/live. “Iron fist/velvet glove”
Why build military infrastructure rather than kidney machines – same production, skills
Leave of property
Education linked into skill development for life-long learning. Schooling to be linked to happenstance
Get set out targets for medical personnel, for everything else there’s no limits
Corporate business often held in hedge funds, distance investment funds
Crop yields at maximum in the world. GM not working. Bees dying in vast numbers globally because of chemical sprays – most yet yields of polluted crops
Fees freeze in education but government not thinking - keyholes in further education

Degeneration is like privatisation of the NHS especially in England. Company’s asset stripping in England – Can this happen in Scotland?
Highly centralised structures but small group of people making the decisions. Federal system of conduct between training and labour is required
Local problems need to be addressed locally in the future
Vibrant community activity required but no one size fits all model
What type of activities (economic) do we want to engage in Scotland?
Not top down/bottom up framework – are mutually exclusive
Community Councils should have more control
Planning is difficult for Parish Councils to negotiate
Big decisions made on where things go? – Is that Local Authority or communities themselves?
NPF seems to be on the right track. How strong are the guidelines for Local Authorities to follow?
How do you define “broken” need to find solutions
Centralism is good but can be ‘Stalin-istic’
It’s depressing when a vibrant sector becomes stagnant
“local is me” – take control of your own
Civic pride is lost – we need to re-claim our own spaces
Localism is much more powerful than we imagine
We are an ageing population – how do we deal with that?
• Older people can’t access internet – that destabilises society
• Best thing to negotiate in a community is children
• Expensive to have children but more expensive not to in terms of society
• Free personal care for older people is 5mins of contact time
• Lots of money stuck in systems to stop things happening, need to change that to make things happen
• Too many middle aged people stuck in positions stopping things happening
• Younger people don’t have a place in life – jobs, housing
• City reigns – a European solution to isolationist centralism
• Nation state needs to be undertaken by city region. Not the only answer though
• Land use in urban areas owned by large assets – land building, MoD land, NHS land
• Manifesto issue – buying land you don’t need for other people
• Northern Ireland example look after a building into disrepair before getting a grant - recent Community Empowerment Bill could lead to that
• Possibly capacity could be brought in, detrimental to communities and projects.
• Local democracy can help local projects, from ground up. Maybe need centralised government to help but it’s a balancing act
• Another example of ‘British Disease’ – we say nothing or shout about it. No ongoing dialogue in society
• Time is the forgotten resource. We forget history. Policy has been brought out before and failed time and time again
• Local always the future for people at the local level.
• We’re not ready to see what’s happening on the future
• Need the councillor as a go-to person but proportional representation provides 4 councillors which doesn’t give a direct point of contact
• When a society is in trouble it creates a paper track/surveillance to fix the blame rather than fix the problem
• Create employment for post – qualifications, post-apprenticeships
• We don’t live in a society which gives permission
• Beyond the referendum what happens in 2050?
• In Scotland, key great export always people. We have been to self-effacing, need to start pulling ourselves together
• What do we need to do to change?
• New homes don’t have dining rooms because people don’t eat together. Prioritising I people’s spaces - that clumps society
• No green space in London so young children have rickets, lack of vitamin D, no fresh air, noise pollution etc.
• A revolutionary new look at society
• A revolutionary new way of looking at things
• A top down way of thinking
• Got to design a new society
• Advanced capitalism makes us ‘forecast’ but why must we look ahead then back – ‘backcast’