The challenges and opportunities of an ageing society

General Teaching Ideas

Media clips
The speech given by George Magnus contains a good overview of the statistics of Britain’s changing population structure and could be used as a stand alone starter. Throughout his speech he makes reference to a number of economic, social and political causes and consequences and asking students to identify these could develop their literacy skills.

Link – George Magnus clip

Government report
The event was used as a launch pad for a government response to Britain's changing society. The report could be given out to students to précis or students could be asked to produce a summary grid of causes, consequences and possible solutions. There are also links to the AQA Health Unit within the report.

Link - Preparing for our ageing society – developing a new Government strategy

Cross curricular links
This topic lends itself well to incorporating ICT and GIS. The data used in lesson 1 and throughout the speeches could be used to improve graphicy and skills. Data could be plotted using a GIS and students asked to comment on the spatial variations. The Office of National Statistics and BBC website provide some excellent interactive data that could be used.

Link - The Office of National Statistics
BBC Interactive: See how the UK's population is changing