# Future of an Ageing Population Policy Workshops: Guide for facilitators

## Available workshop materials

This guide is intended to accompany the evidence cards and personas which have been published on the project website. It describes a workshop format in which we have successfully used these materials to help people think through the impacts of an Ageing Population and how we could influence this. The evidence cards summarise in an easy to understand way the main pieces of evidence that we gathered during the course of the project, while the personas provide suggested ways in which fictional people might experience the future in 2040.

## Evidence Safari

We used evidence safaris to help people interact with the evidence cards and think through the pieces of evidence that are relevant to a policy implication. Each team is given or selects a policy implication. Their task is to explore a series of evidence stations, around which evidence cards are displayed, to 'shop for' the evidence which will impact on their policy implication. They must then construct their own story about what is happening, and what the problem is.

*End point – the evidence cards laid out on a wall, or table, telling a story of the challenge we face.*

## Creating Scenarios

This helps groups to think through interventions that could result in individuals experiencing better or worse lives in the future. Each group is given a persona (a fictional person in 2040) with a short description of their life. The task is to describe a two alternative futures, one much worse and one much better than that described, and the things which would have made that happen.

*End point - two alternative futures for our 2040 citizen*

## Pick a challenge

Each group has 15 minutes to pick one of the things they've identified so far (either a macro challenge they spotted in the first session or one of the things which made their citizen's life better) and turn it into a 'How can we…' statement.

*End point – each team should finish the session by sharing an outcome focussed statement which they think would make a significant difference given the evidence they've seen so far. This could be something like 'How can we keep more people in work in their 50s?".*

## Action to capitalise on the opportunities and minimise the risks of an Ageing population?

Groups ask themselves a series of "What would need to be in place for that to happen?" For example, if the challenge is "*How can we keep more people in work in their 50s?"* one precondition of this would be more people healthy enough to work in their 50s. What would allow that? Less health inequality, fewer people providing unpaid care. What would allow that? Healthier behaviours throughout life, extending healthy life expectancy. What would create that? And so on.

*End point -  a map of the areas to explore if you wanted to achieve something on your chosen challenge.*