

Future of Ageing Research : Post REF 2014, Nov. 11th



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Decline in Welfare State and Pressures on Funding are the Coordinates Shaping the Research Environment

This leads to a number of inter-related issues:



- Need to look at a diversity of sources to fund research in the field of ageing;
- Need to embed the study of age-related issues across a wide spectrum of research activity and programmes
- Social & behavioural scientists need to display more confidence in making the case for research funding

BSG has a responsibility to:



- Raising the profile and stressing the importance of our research as social gerontologists;
- At the same time ensuring that we have a strong presence in our home disciplines;
- Lead work building research capacity, supporting PhD and post-doctoral researchers;
- Encourage greater co-ordination between the University centres/institutes of gerontology in building capacity

In a transitional phase..



- Be more confident about the power and relevance of social and behavioural science;
- Be more imaginative in where we look for funding;
- Re-think many of the concepts we use for thinking about age – the shrinkage of the welfare state and changing cohorts of older people underline the urgency of this;
- BSG needs to be strong, yet challenging and critical of the dominant paradigms through which we view an ageing society