

Can the UK ever be sustainable?

General teaching ideas

Media clips

The website www.21stCenturyChallenges.org contains all the speeches made by the panel members. Each contains material that could be used to get a plenary discussion going with a small sixth form group. The different perspectives could be challenged by the students.

All talks for the event: <http://www.21stcenturychallenges.org/challenges/can-the-uk-ever-be-sustainable/>

Different perspectives

The topic of sustainability is a particularly large area and the exam boards have tended to focus on cities rather than countries. The focus could therefore be on management with regard to the way in which government and business could work together (for example government policies to encourage sustainable development of retail areas, transport and waste management).

Skills and cross curricular links

This topic lends itself well to linking with Economics, Politics and Business Studies. Students may find that it makes a good Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) or IB Extended Essay. The message of the event was clear. Individuals are acting already and making a difference but to see a measurable change in the next decade business and government will need to work together to enable sustainability in the UK.