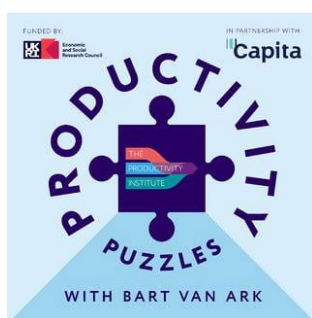




Wednesday, 17 November 2021



## Can labour shortages help raise productivity?

Can productivity growth help to face the challenges of rising labour shortages in the UK economy? In our latest podcast episode - out today - we're taking a deep dive into the issue of an increased shortage of workers - especially so-called "skilled blue collar workers" in our economy. Host Bart van Ark is joined Yael Selfin, a Partner and Chief Economist at KPMG and Professors Anthony Rafferty and Tony Venables from The University of Manchester. [Click here to listen](#) and read Tony's blog on labour shortages and productivity [on our website](#).



## Sizing the productivity problem: international, national, region and sectoral

Our first evidence session for the Productivity Commission can be watched on a livestream hosted by [NIESR](#) on 23 November from 9am-11.30am covering the topic *Sizing the productivity problem: international, national, regional and sectoral*.



## Productivity in the UK's electricity networks

The productivity growth of electricity transmission and distribution networks in Great Britain is examined in a new TPI paper from Victor Ajayi, Karim Anaya and Professor Michael Pollitt from the University of Cambridge. They look at how changes in incentive mechanism have

influenced the measured total factor productivity (how productive both capital and labour are). It also examines the effects of quality of service and environmental targets on measured productivity growth. Read *Incentive regulation, productivity growth and environmental effects: the case of electricity networks in Great Britain* [on our website](#).



## Understanding the variables of productive firms

How do you make firms more productive and while understanding the different variables? This TPI paper from Professor Nigel Driffield examines the three ways of improving firm level productivity and the international elements of foreign direct investment and exports. Read *Understanding productivity: Organisational Capital perspectives* [on our website](#).



## How foreign direct investment can improve productivity

The role that foreign direct investment can play in increasing productivity is discussed in Professor Nigel Driffield's new TPI paper. It looks at existing research from economics, international business and regional sciences and contrasts the different approaches. Read *Inward investment and UK productivity* [on our website](#).



## TPI features in policy report on levelling up

We're pleased to feature as a case study in a new [Academy of Social Sciences report](#) which shows how social scientists are making powerful practical contributions to levelling up cities, regions or countries in the UK - improving economic growth, services and the quality of life for people and businesses in these places. Nigel Driffield is also featured for his work in helping Greater Birmingham develop a highly successful inward investment strategy.

## Registrations open for workshop on productivity & structural change



The Money Macro & Finance Society, the Bank of England, The Productivity Institute and NIESR are holding a two-day blended workshop on productivity and structural change on 25 and 26 November. Register to attend on [the BoE event website](#) by 5pm on 19 November.



## Productivity and well-being workshop underway

Our two-day workshop on [Productivity and well-being measurement and linkages](#), organised by the Centre for the Study of Living Standards and the International Labour Organization begins today. You can read all the draft papers that will be discussed on our website. A selection will be published in a 2022 edition of the [International Productivity Monitor](#). The next edition of IPM is published in December.

## Upcoming Events

**9 November - 9 December** The Oxford Martin School has a range of hybrid events on the subject *Levelling Up regional disparities, inequality and social inclusion* over the coming weeks. Find out more and book to attend on their [website](#).

**23 November** Productivity Commission first oral evidence submission livestream. More information on the [NIESR website](#).

**24 November** *Launch of new wealth economy foundation* - The Bennett Institute at the University of Cambridge is launching a new wealth economy workshop focusing on economic prosperity and how to build back better, post-pandemic, with sustainability and social wellbeing at the heart of the calculations. [Book your place](#) on their website.

**25 November** Prais Lecture. Professor Sheilagh Ogilvie, Chichele Professor of Economic History, at University of Oxford is this year's speaker at the event which examines issues relating to productivity, economic growth and human wellbeing. Book to attend the online event on the [NIESR website](#).

**25-26 November** TPI, MMF, BoE, NIESR *Workshop on productivity and structural change* Book on [the event website](#).

**2 December** ProPEL Hub event *Wellbeing and productivity: can you have it all?* [Book on Eventbrite](#).

**7 December** ProPEL Hub event *Managing digital technology for better performance*. [Book on Eventbrite](#).

**8 December** ESCoE workshop *More, Better, Faster Statistics: How Can we Support the UK 'Levelling-Up' Agenda*. Details TBC.

**16 January** Submission deadline for the Economic Statistics Centre of Excellence

(ESCoE) annual Conference held 25-27 May 2022. More details on the [ESCoE website](#).

## TPI Publications

Our Working Papers and Productivity Insight Papers can be [found on our website](#).

- Climate change and fiscal responsibility [Read](#)
- UK's Industrial Policy: Learning from the past? [Read](#).
- The idea of productivity [Read](#)
- Covid-19 business support and SME productivity in the UK [Read](#)
- Uber And Beyond: Policy Implications for the UK [Read](#)
- Public Investments in COVID-19 green packages [Read](#)
- Productivity in UK healthcare during and after the Covid-19 pandemic [Read](#)
- A concerted effort to tackle the productivity puzzle during the post-COVID era [Read](#)
- Human Capital & productivity [Read](#)
- Productivity & the Pandemic [Read](#)
- Productivity Growth and Capital Deepening in the Fourth Industrial Revolution [Read](#)

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