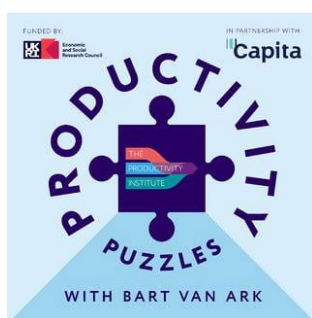




Wednesday, 13 July 2022



Productivity and well-being: new podcast

What does it take for a society to grow productivity and raise well-being? This week's episode of Productivity Puzzles features [Conal Smith](#), Senior Economist at the Institute for Governance and Policy Studies at Victoria University of Wellington, [Diane Coyle](#), Bennett Professor of Public Policy at the University of Cambridge and [Tim Hazledine](#), who recently retired as Professor of Economics at the University of Auckland Business School. Listen on [our website](#), or wherever you get your podcasts.



New TPI insights paper

TPI co-investigator Philip McCann, who leads our Geography and Place research theme, has written a new insights paper arguing that the UK's endemic regional-national productivity problems cannot be addressed by the UK's current institutional and governance set-up. You can read *Levelling Up: The Need for an Institutionally Coordinated Approach to National and Regional Productivity* on [our website](#).



Bart van Ark quoted in Treasury Select Committee

Our Managing Director, Bart van Ark, was quoted extensively in The House of Common's Treasury Select Committee report from its *Jobs, growth and productivity after coronavirus* inquiry. NIESR chair Jagjit Chadha, who leads our Productivity Commission, is also quoted



throughout. The report covers short-termism in UK policy-making and policy churn, the importance of investing in schools, the long-tail of unproductive firms, the diffusion and adoption of digital technologies and skills shortages and more. You can read highlights from the report, released this morning, on [our website](#) or access the full report on the [UK Parliament website](#).

Productivity Commission report gains traction

The conclusions of the [first report](#) released by the Productivity Commission have had a strong impact within the media. David Smith reviewed the evidence in [an article](#) (paywall) for the Sunday Times, Richard Partington referenced the work in [a piece](#) for the Guardian, and the report was also picked up by [CityAM](#). The Productivity Commission is hosted by The Productivity Institute's partner, the National Institute of Economic and Social Research.



Tony Venables in Resolution Foundation report

The Resolution Foundation has released its report on productivity, called [Bridging the gap](#), which makes use of data on UK regional inequality from our Research Director, Tony Venables. The data uses male employment rates as a proxy for manufacturing employment during the 1970s to show how de-industrialisation has shaped regional inequality in the country up to the modern day.



A Mystery: More Jobs Filled, but Lower Output

Our Managing Director Bart van Ark was quoted in [Peter Coy's New York Times article](#) (paywall) about diminishing productivity gains as low-wage workers return to the workforce post-pandemic. According to Bart, winning companies will respond to the slump by investing more in automation, while ambitious workers will switch to employers “who can afford to pay more but who will also require them to be more productive.”

Mark Hart in Raconteur



TPI's [Mark Hart](#) was interviewed as part of Raconteur's look into the UK's productivity problem, *Running up that skill: Business transformation 2022*. Mark told [Ouida Taaffe](#) that looking at productivity as simply gross value added per employee is too narrow. You can read the full report on [Raconteur's website](#) (paywall).



TPI expertise at the Geography of Innovation Conference

TPI co-investigators [Elvira Uyarra](#) and [Raquel Ortega-Argilés](#) presented their work on [The Consortium for Research in Innovative and Strategic Public Procurement](#) at the 6th Geography of Innovation Conference in Milan. The research is a collaboration with the [Connected Places Catapult](#).



Research opportunities

The Productivity Institute and its partners are offering the following research job and publication opportunities:

- **Call for special issue papers** from the British Journal of Management. This special issue on *Reimagining business and management as a force for good* encourages theoretical and empirical contributions on how business and management is taking on a broader social purpose in order to address grand societal challenges. Closes **15 October**. Submit an article on [Wiley Online Library](#).

Upcoming Events

14 September Brown Bag seminar (TPI academics only). Nigel Driffield.

21 September TPI Business Conference. More details to follow.

28 September Brown Bag (TPI academics only). Frank Geels & Jean-Francois Mercure.

5 October Brown Bag seminar (TPI academics only). Chris Warhurst & Derek Bosworth.

12-13 October World KLEMS Conference 2022, [hosted by TPI at AMBS](#).

TPI Publications

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

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