



Wednesday 1 March 2023



TPI funding call for research into productivity in business

We're seeking research proposals to better understand business leader decision making around productivity, pairing researchers with business to look at productivity from the perspective of Marketing, Operations, HR, Finance and IT leaders within firms.

Applications are welcome from researchers based at any UK university or independent research organisations within the UK. Researchers can be partnered with any UK-based business or UK sites of international business or UK charities. More detail on the call and the application process can be found on the [TPI website](#). Applications close on **Monday, 10 April**.

TPI signs MoU with Rochdale Development Agency

The [memorandum of understanding](#) (MoU) will seek to inform, drive and assess the success of Atom Valley as the flagship project to improve productivity in Rochdale Borough. It follows on from the September 2022 launch of a publication [On Productivity](#) in Rochdale, where Institute member [Professor Richard Jones](#) chaired a session on research and development and its role in Levelling Up, while [Dr Luke Munford](#) led a discussion on the causes and implications of health inequalities.



Productivity Commission – call for written evidence



The Productivity Commission is calling for evidence on topics relating to business investment, public investment and foreign direct investment and their connection to productivity at all levels. Further details and terms of reference can be found on [NIESR's website](#). Please send your submission to productivity@niesr.ac.uk by **Monday, 24 April**.



Science and innovation policy for hard times - podcast

[Diane Coyle](#) and [Richard Jones](#) feature on the [second episode](#) of season two of Productivity Puzzles, discussing the new Department for Science, Innovation and Technology. To listen, and for a full reading list and transcript, visit [our website](#). Or listen, rate and subscribe [wherever you get your podcasts](#).



Levelling Up economics

[Philip McCann's](#) piece for the [Institute for Fiscal Studies' Deaton Review](#) examines UK interregional productivity inequalities and argues that UK economics must seriously engage with the regional question for the sake of future good policy and institutions.



Regional productivity levers in England and Wales: blog

[Jack Newman](#) has co-authored [a blog](#) on the need to tackle inequality between regions and how to ensure that devolved institutions have the capacity to improve productivity and inclusivity within regions. The commentary is based on Jack's paper [A place-based system? Regional policy levers and the UK's productivity challenge](#).

Will Labour learn the lessons from past policy failings?

[Patrick Diamond](#), [Dave Richards](#), Anna Sanders and [Andy Westwood](#) consider the UK's Levelling Up agenda under recent Conservative PMs in [an article for the Political Quarterly](#). The authors then turn to the approach



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of Keir Starmer's Labour Party to levelling up and the issues it needs to confront if it forms the next government.

TPI expertise

- Read the [one-page executive summary](#) of Philip McCann's insights paper [Levelling Up: The Need for an Institutionally Coordinated Approach to National and Regional Productivity](#).
- TPI collaborator Stian Westlake has been announced as the [next Executive Chair](#) of the Economic and Social Research Council. Listen to Stian on [Productivity Puzzles](#) talking about intangibles.
- [Diane Coyle](#) is quoted in a [BBC News article](#) about why the UK economy is lagging behind the US, Germany and others.
- Read Patrick Diamond's [article for the MJ](#) analysing the systemic issue at the centre of UK government that continually stymies English devolution.
- Philip McCann contributed to [an article](#) (paywall) by Paul Collier about how the UK Treasury holds Britain back in the race to spread prosperity to neglected, restive regions.

TPI Opportunities

- The University of Glasgow is looking for a Research Associate to support the [Scotland Productivity Forum](#)'s research and business engagement programme. Closes **10 March**. Apply at [jobs.ac.uk](#).
- The Bennett Institute for Public Policy at the University of Cambridge is seeking to appoint a Research Associate or Research Assistant to support the Productivity Institute's Regional Productivity Forum (RPF) in [East Anglia](#). Closes **21**

March. Apply on [the Bennett Institute website](#).



International Productivity Monitor

The latest International Productivity Monitor edition features research on [measuring well-being based on the World Happiness Report](#). Read all the articles from the IPM [on the TPI website](#).

Upcoming Events

21 March Bart van Ark and David Jordan speaking at ESRI event on productivity in Ireland and Northern Ireland. Book on [ESRI's website](#).

3-5 April Royal Economic Society Annual Conference. [Book online](#).

14 April The Bennett Institute's Annual Conference. [Book your place](#).

17-19 May ESCoE conference on Economic Measurement at King's College London. More information on [ESCoE's website](#).

18 May Productivity Commission evidence session. [Watch online](#). Written evidence deadline 24 April.

16 June Productivity Revolutions: Past & Future Conference - University of Manchester.

TPI Publications

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

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Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council

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