

Productivity Project Funding Round 2: Successful Projects

Small Projects

Project Lead/s: Dr Katy Jones	Organisation: Manchester Metropolitan University
Project Theme: Work and Employment	
Project Overview	
<p>Universal Credit and ‘in-work conditionality’ – a productive turn?</p> <p>The DWP has stated that Universal Credit will help ‘<i>business to grow</i>’ and ‘<i>improve productivity</i>’ (DWP, 2018). However, the mechanisms through which this is to be achieved are unclear. Furthermore, employers have been largely absent from policy discussions. As a policy with implications for workplace social dynamics, which impact productivity (McCann, 2018), this is an important omission. This project helps to address this, asking: <i>Will Universal Credit lead to more productive work?</i></p>	

Project Lead/s: Dr Anthony Savager	Organisation: University of Kent
Project Theme: FDI, Capital & Investments	
Project Overview	
<p>The project intends to describe the relationship between market concentration in the UK and productivity performance using new data from the Department of Business (BEIS) and the inter-departmental business register (IDBR).</p>	

Project Lead/s: Dr Lara Pecis	Organisation: University of Lancaster
Project Theme: Work and Employment and Institutions, governance & organisations	
Project Overview	
<p>How are public and private sector organizations working together in innovation hubs to build inclusion in urban contexts and broader regions?</p> <p>The project aims at understanding how hubs can best promote inclusivity in entrepreneurship and act as formal support channels for specific groups including women and BME. The project will address the research question: how are public and private sector organizations working together in innovation hubs to build inclusion in urban contexts and broader regions?</p>	

Project Lead/s: Dr Daniel Kopasker	Organisation: University of Aberdeen
Project Theme: Health, Well Being and Demographic Change & Work Employment	
Project Overview	
<p>By affecting employees’ mental health, insecure employment can impact on productivity. In response to the Taylor Review of Modern Working Practices (2017), the Government is developing legislation to address insecure employment. This project will inform the basis for policy interventions by assessing the scope for employers to benefit from reducing insecure employment.</p>	

Pioneer Projects

Project Lead/s: Dr Alessandro Rosiello	Organisation: University of Edinburgh
Project Theme: Technology, Innovation, Competition, Enterprise	
Project Overview:	
<p>This project will tackle gaps in research by conducting primary firm-level research that advances understandings of how scale-ups finance, internationalise, use support, and learn to manage their growth. Building on our interdisciplinary research team and policy expertise, we also meet PIN objectives through an active engagement process (reports, consultations, workshops) with policy-makers and growing businesses in the four periphery areas.</p>	
Project Lead/s: Dr Soumyadeb Chowdhury	Organisation: Aston University
Project Theme: Health, well-being, ageing and demographic change	
Project Overview:	
<p>The project will contribute to shaping the narrative of productivity debate in the following ways:</p> <p>(1) understanding the impact of mental health on business performance and providing evidence for business cases; (2) key influences that drive, hold back and enable the SMEs implementing management practices to improve workplace MH; (3) needs of SMEs – both in terms of capability and capacity building.</p>	
Project Lead/s: Dr Emma Duchini	Organisation: University of Warwick
Project Theme: Work and Employment & Technology, Innovation, Competitiveness and Enterprise	
Project Overview:	
<p>To what extent does the gender pay gap influence firm productivity? Can policies designed to reduce this gap have an impact on firm performance?</p> <p>This project will give three important cross-disciplinary contributions. First, it will add to the growing number of studies from the economic and management literature analysing the impact of pay transparency policies on personnel management decisions and gender pay and promotion gaps. While the authors find that this measure is effective at augmenting women's promotion rate and narrowing gender pay differentials, it is unclear whether these results can extend to less egalitarian countries. This project will address this question by considering the UK setting and studying the impact of the 2017 pay transparency policy.</p>	
Project Lead/s: Professor Sara Cantillon	Organisation: Glasgow Caledonian Uni
Project Theme: Work and Employment	
Project Overview:	
<p>This project aims to combine i) a critical review of the literature on the pay-productivity conundrum ii) an empirical analysis of the decoupling in the UK economy over the period 1970-2018, iii) an interdisciplinary evaluation of the findings, with a particular focus on policy orientation and labour market outcomes, and iv) a detailed case study of Scotland.</p>	