



Response to the Green Paper: Building our Industrial Strategy

April 2017

The following are the responses to the Green Paper consultation from the University of Sussex. We have responded to some but not all of the questions, reflecting the nature of the organisation. We have also generally responded to groups of questions, reflecting the overlapping nature of the questions and our responses.

Questions for Consultation

Summary

1. Does this document identity the right areas of focus: extending our strengths; closing the gaps; and making the UK one of the most competitive places to start or grow a business?
2. Are the ten pillars suggested the right ones to tackle low productivity and unbalanced growth? If not, which areas are missing?
3. Are the right central government and local institutions in place to deliver an effective industrial strategy? If not, how should they be reformed? Are the types of measures to strengthen local institutions set out here and below the right ones?
4. Are there important lessons we can learn from the industrial policies of other countries which are not reflected in these ten pillars?

The broad thrust of the draft Strategy is reasonable. However, it includes important elements that are about and affect the breadth of the UK's economy and society, and not just about 'industrial strategy'.

We wish to

We applaud the recognition of the importance of international trade. Such trade depends on appropriate trade-related policies and agreements, but can also be derailed by inappropriate non-trade policies.

Exports include significant levels of skills and knowledge, as well as that of manufactured goods, and the former should not be overlooked.

Delivering Affordable Energy and Clean Growth

27. What are the most important steps the Government should take to limit energy costs over the long-term?

28. How can we move towards a position in which energy is supplied by competitive markets without the requirement for on-going subsidy?

29. How can the Government, business and researchers work together to develop the competitive opportunities from innovation in energy and our existing industries?

