

# Ten blog posts to help inform discussions on the UK economy going forward



How to improve social mobility. Merely tweaking existing policies won't do, but four major changes have the potential to transform society.

[How to improve social mobility](#)

To meet its ambitious 'net zero' target, the UK will need to ramp up climate change policies. Slower growth resulting from Brexit may reduce emissions in the short run, but less R&D investment will likely result in higher emissions in the long run.

[To meet its ambitious 'net zero' target, the UK will need to ramp up climate change policies](#)

John Van Reenen: 'A lot of promises are just smoke and mirrors'. Professor Van Reenen talks about predictions of "the end of globalisation", how it's becoming very hard to get trade deals through, and the UK's productivity paradox. It takes time for technological breakthroughs to translate into higher productivity, "because you have to figure out how you transfer these new ideas into products and services, which really do create value for people, and that requires lots of experimentation."

[John Van Reenen: 'A lot of promises are just smoke and mirrors'](#)

Silicon Roundabout: did light touch policy interventions work? Policy increased the size and density of the tech cluster, but this seems not to have consistently increased firm performance.

[Silicon Roundabout: did light touch policy interventions work?](#)

How will the UK tackle its welfare challenge in light of technological unemployment? A universal basic income above subsistence level could help eradicate the welfare stigma.

### [How will the UK tackle its welfare challenge in light of technological unemployment?](#)

How to change the paradigm in finance to incorporate a changing environment. By moving from 'efficient' to 'adaptive' markets thinking, we can force market participants to react and innovate.

### [How to change the paradigm in finance to incorporate a changing environment](#)

Brexit will leave the UK worse off economically in all scenarios. New costs of trade will make it harder for UK firms to do business with the rest of Europe.

### [Brexit will leave the UK worse off economically in all scenarios](#)

Playing at Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde: the UK job market. Employment is at record highs, but wage growth has been lower than in any other developed country except Greece.

### [Playing at Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde: the UK job market](#)

What are the economic forces polarising the UK? Policy needs to make sure that people in disadvantaged communities can access the opportunities generated, which will require substantial intervention across a wide range of policy areas.

### [What are the economic forces polarising the UK?](#)

The changing size and shape of the UK state ahead of GE2019. The spending restraint of the austerity period and the political priorities pursued by successive governments have placed major strain on a number of public services. As a result, the size of the state has changed over the past decade and so too has its shape.

### [The changing size and shape of the UK state ahead of GE2019](#)



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