**State of Small Business Britain Conference**

**10th June 2014 ACC Liverpool**

**PROGRAMME**

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| 09.15-10.00 | REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS | Room 3 |
| 10.00-10.15 | **Welcome** *(Professor Stephen Roper, Director ERC and Lucy Armstrong, Conference Chair)* | Room 1C |
| 10.15-10.45 | **Small Business Britain Today** *(Keynote by Lord Bilimoria of Chelsea and Founder Cobra Beer*) |
| 10.45-11.30 | **The State of Small Business Britain Debate** What do our panellists make of the evidence? What do you, the audience, make of it? *(Marcus Stuttard London Stock Exchange* *Group; Vicki Pryce Government Advisor, Baroness* *Wheatcroft Business Editor The Times.* |
| 11.30-12.00 | REFRESHMENTS AND NETWORKING | Room 3 |
| 12.00-12.40 | **The Ambition Gap** The latest Global Entrepreneurship Monitor data points to a decade long decline in the growth ambition of UK companies versus the US. Are we really less ambitious than our US counterparts? Followed by Presidential Debate and Delegate Poll. | Room 1C |
| 12.45-14.00 | LUNCH  | Room 3 |
| 14.00-14.05 | Welcome back (Lucy Armstrong) The afternoon explores some key factors critical to growth. | Room 1C |
| 14.05-14.40 | **Export: Growing Global** *Professor Jim Love* outlines the latest research on exporters, how UK exporters compare to other European countries and what this might mean. We follow this with some insights from people who have been or are right at the heart of the export challenge. *(In Conversation with business owners Jim Griffin and Adam Whitehouse).*  |
| 14.40-15.15 | **Accessing Finance: the Business View** – one small business’ story of raising finance for growth is coupled with Professor Stuart Fraser’s latest research on the landscape of finance for SMEs and a chance to explore what’s working and what’s not with our panel of experts. (*Followed by panel discussion including Professor Richard Roberts and Andrew Van der Lem British Business Bank).* |
| 15.15-15.45 | REFRESHMENTS AND NETWORKING | Room 3 |
| 15.45-16.25 | **Unleashing Growth** What should the UK do to unleash growth and make it sustainable? We close with a chance to push the frontiers of our thinking on this issue and identify questions we don’t have ananswer to yet. (Ask the Experts Q&A including Professors Stephen Roper, Mark Hart, Mike Wright and delegates poll. | Room 1C |
| 16.25 | Closing Thoughts |
| 16.30 | **Close** |  |