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SCOTLAND SUNDAY

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- Tuesday 2nd June 2015
-
-
- Light rain 7°C / 13°C

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Edinburgh 5-day weather forecast

| Tuesday Light rain | 2 Jun | Wednesday Sunny spells | 3 Jun | Thursday Cloudy | 4 Jun | Friday Heavy rain | 5 Jun | Saturday Light showers | 6 Jun |
|-----------------------|------------|---------------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|---------------------------|------------|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Temp | | Temp | | Temp | | Temp | | Temp | |
| High | 13°C | High | 15°C | High | 17°C | High | 17°C | High | 15°C |
| Low | 7°C | Low | 6°C | Low | 9°C | Low | 10°C | Low | 9°C |
| Wind | | Wind | | Wind | | Wind | | Wind | |
| From | South west | From | West | From | West | From | East | From | South west |
| Speed | | Speed | | Speed | | Speed | | Speed | |

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Rumour Mill: Rangers bid for Scott Allan | Fifa arrests



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Shock at Scotland's showing in innovation survey



Professor Stephen Roper led the research into UKs most innovative areas



by

updated

22:14 Friday 29 May 2015

published

00:00 Saturday 30 May 2015

Scotland's rate of innovation is lagging behind many other parts of the UK and is risking the nation's long-term economic prospects, a study has claimed.

7
comments
HAVE YOUR SAY

The report from the Enterprise Research Centre (ERC), a partnership between five business schools at universities including Strathclyde, found the UK has a clear "arc of innovation" stretching from Cambridge through the south east Midlands, Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire.

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- 4 World ban looms for Bilel Mohsni
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But south west Scotland, including Glasgow, is ranked 35th, the north east and Highlands & Islands, including Aberdeen and Inverness 39th, and eastern Scotland including Edinburgh is ranked 43rd – third from bottom in the UK league table.

The lowly placing of the capital is at odds with a report earlier this year which identified Edinburgh as Scotland's hi-tech hotspot based on the number of digital companies growing by a third in three years.

Professor Stephen Roper, who led the research for the ERC, admitted that Scotland's poor showing was unexpected and was something that required further investigation.

"The finding that the key economic regions of Scotland showed lower rates of innovation activity than elsewhere was surprising and one that will require further research to determine why this could be," he said.

Jim Watson, innovation & enterprise services director for Scottish Enterprise, said significant focus was being placed on improving Scotland's innovation performance with the aim of equalling the best performing nations by 2020.

"Over the next three years we'll be helping 2,400 Scottish companies reap the benefits of innovation in their businesses, contributing to an additional £700 million to £850m turnover. We're also looking for companies to invest an additional £500-600m into R&D," he said.

The findings of the ERC, whose advisory board includes Professor John Anderson, chief executive at the Entrepreneurial Exchange in Scotland, is based on analysis of six key indicators of innovation, ranging from new products being brought to market, to collaboration and research and development (R&D) activity.

It has analysed data from 14,000 firms which responded to the UK Innovation Survey 2013, relating to their innovation activity over the period 2010-2012.

Roper said firms' ability to innovate played an important role in sustaining growth and competitiveness, with major economic implications.

"For the first time, this research gives us a picture of which localities of the UK have the highest proportion of firms introducing new products and services. The findings run counter to the dominant narrative of a country dependent on London, with innovation being much more dispersed across the country than was previously thought.

"Innovation is strongly linked to growth, exporting and productivity – all areas in which the UK economy needs to improve if we want to boost our international competitiveness.

"The significant variation between different parts of the UK suggests that some localities are succeeding in creating a more innovation-friendly environment than others."

Roper said policymakers and researchers need to examine the local factors that could be contributing to this variation so that the right conditions can be created for firms to become more innovative in every corner of the UK.

Video



Motherwell 3 Rangers 0:
Match reaction

14:14



Greener together:
walking & cycling

4:09



2015 Edinburgh
Marathon in pictures

0:30



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cyberscot
8:49 PM on 31/05/2015

Rate: (0) (0)



dont try to get on in national socialist scotland just sign on



Onwards
12:17 AM on 31/05/2015

Rate: (2) (1)



For an entrepreneurial culture, schools should start by teaching business studies and marketing as standard in the final school years.
Make pupils watch the Apprentice, Dragons Den, Shark tank etc

Of course, Scotland needs the economic powers to attract and retain high quality companies and jobs in the first place.

Limited devolution has set the agenda for a dependency culture.



Jock Average

7:06 PM on 30/05/2015

Rate: (0) (0)



Scotland has rested on its laurels - they have almost turned into thorns

Britnat Marxist labour - know your place



Caleyman

5:58 PM on 30/05/2015

Rate: (0) (2)



I suspect it reflects the failure of Scottish Education over the past ten to twenty years

For various reasons, UK Government Government Policies (of both parties) have enhanced many aspects of English Education and the Cambridge-Swindon Corridor may be one of the results of these policies.

Recent weeks have highlighted severe failings in the Scottish Education system while the Scottish Government's Policy of No University Fees has meant a severe decline in college education. In England, College Education is progressing. It means that in terms of innovation, management has the skilled technical staff to follow through their ideas.



bamboo

10:01 AM on 30/05/2015

Rate: (1) (4)



Did anyone really think that innovation was centred on London? If you need premises for R&D labs, why would you pay London prices? And how do you deal with e.g. a large pharmaceutical site? That would skew R&D spending massively

And why is a "digital company" equated with innovation? What is a "digital company"? If it's an online shop, that does not need to be innovative.

Would need to check how they have used criteria for judging innovation but it is not looking very good on the face of it.

Maybe people elsewhere in the UK are just getting on and innovating without worrying about what Westminster is doing. Meanwhile we are constantly told by the SNP what powerless victims we are, at the mercy of Westminster and unable to thrive. Might be good for their division agenda but not good for anyone living here

+ 1 reply



Thumper

8:41 AM on 30/05/2015

Rate: (0) (16)



The SNP spokesperson, said we realise we have no been in power for 8 years but we have other more important things to deal with other than these minor issues.....clearly even though we have failed to meet waiting list and clinical targets, levels of education dropping at an alarming rate and now this issue on Scotland ability to inspire and innovate seems devastating for the future it wasnae us... It was the big boy who did it and ran away, blame the Tories, labour, libdem UKIP but it definitely wasnae us and this is just press bias so it is



The Answer

8:01 AM on 30/05/2015

Rate:



(3)



(0)



Shock at Scotland's showing in innovation survey 29-05-2015

"Glasgow, is ranked

35th, the north east and Highlands & Islands, including Aberdeen and Inverness

39th, and eastern Scotland including Edinburgh is ranked

43rd – third from bottom in the UK league table."

chuckle chuckles

1 reply

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castletrust.co.uk/Index-Tracker

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