



All-Party Parliamentary
Group for Micro Businesses

Expert Meeting on

Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive
Capacity Building and Sustainable Development

30-31 March 2015

An Education System fit for an Entrepreneur

by

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The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD

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The Context

- Commissioned in December 2012 following an APPG meeting with Anne-Marie Morris / David Willets
 - Recognition that term SME is meaningless today
 - (New) Micro firms create jobs
 - 5.2M Private Sector firms in UK;
 - 99.3% Micro-Small; 0.6% Medium; 5,000 large firms
 - 76% sole traders





Sample of Key Findings

- Evidence **suggests** that learning for innovation needs to be **implicit** and not seen as a **bolt-on** experience
- Our education systems need to deliver **knowledge harvesters**, not merely **knowledge retainers**
- **Flexibility** and **adaptability** are key skills and behaviours, yet many educational systems conspire against them
- Learning from experience includes the experience of being taught – the **teacher** can be a **role model** to emulate



Sample of Key Findings

- Schools encouraged to **measure** to the **test**, not the **talent**
- Peer recognition and rewards schemes are **emerging** and have **impact**
- Formalised progression and career paths are at a very early stage of development (for entrepreneurship educators)
- UK Government support was lacking in England
- Europe and the world were moving ahead of us



Key Concerns include:

- Disjointed landscape – HE's lead with QAA
- If we want to make it in curriculum – assessment strategies still need robust development
 - “not a single educator or educational respondent stated that they could reliably track the development of creative and innovative capacities”*
- Educator enhancement strategies / training is required
- Disjointed and ad hoc funding – many insights get lost
- Good educators are rarely rewarded within HE sector



Sample of Key Recommendations

- Government overarching strategy is required ([Parties agree](#))
- Definitions need to be more consistent ([QAA/OFSTED](#))
- Academic support / University 'buy in' is required – drawing on all bodies and networks ([Value Networks](#))
- Business Schools are not alone, this is an interdisciplinary agenda ([Small Business Charter?](#))
- We need to look to the world stage, e.g. UN and EU are well advanced in their thinking ([here I am, learning!](#))



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“Integration and pathways to be developed so that schools, colleges and universities can provide a continuous and integrated approach that will help our learners to develop the lifelong skills needed to be enterprising and entrepreneurial.”

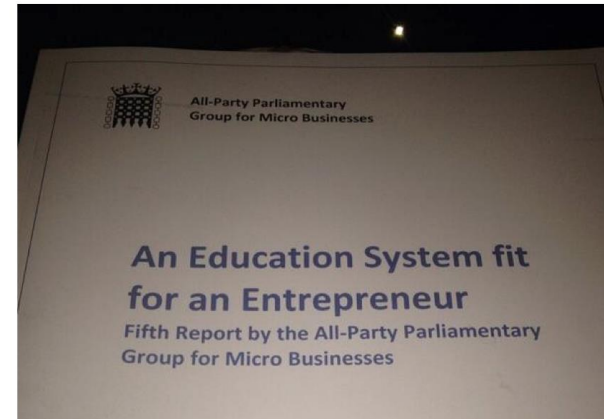
Professor Andrew Penaluna
Ex-Chair, EEUK



Youth Enterprise
@HullsEnterprise

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#HYEP endorsed recommendations today
pic.twitter.com/o3XVraAhSE

10:25 PM - 27 Feb 14



Lord Young - the Prime Minister's Special Advisor for Small Firms - called on the author to complete his *Enterprise for All* Report; it was accepted by the Cabinet in October 2014.

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