

Construction collapses - and only Tory policy can expla...

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With [apologies to the Independent](#), this seems worth reproducing pretty much in full:

There has been a sharp drop in the underlying value of private housing project starts in the first quarter of 2011. Glenigan, the construction data service, recorded a 61 per cent year-on-year fall in the underlying value of new starts in the three months to March.

The weak first quarter of 2011, in line with other survey data, is in sharp contrast to the strong rebound experienced a year ago in the run-up to the general election. The underlying value of civil engineering project starts fell by 16 per cent.

That's a staggering collapse.

Labour ensured government spending kept this sector going.

That was the right thing to do, for the economy, for those needing housing and for the infrastructure refurbishment we still need to make it green.

They Tories are axing all investment as fast as they can.

And with it confidence in house building has collapsed.

There's only one person to blame for this downturn. It is the deliberate choice of George Osborne.