

The Labour Fiscal Rule needs to be consigned to history

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As the [FT has noted this morning](#):

Economists were unanimous after Sajid Javid's spending review on Wednesday: The chancellor's fiscal rules were dead and Boris Johnson's government, much like that of Donald Trump in the US, no longer cared much about budget deficits.

Quite so, and I agree. This has been apparent since Johnson started flashing the cash. Trump-style.

But an important question follows, and that is where labour is, and the Scottish Growth Commission come to that. Both are dedicated to what I have long described as wholly unnecessary fiscal rules, which the Tories have for their own inappropriate reasons now abandoned. As the FT also notes:

Simon Wren-Lewis, professor of economics at Oxford university and the inspiration behind part of the Labour Party's own fiscal credibility rule, said, "[the new Tory position] is a complete change from the previous idea that you've got to get [debt] down".

Isn't it time Labour changed too? Not, I stress for the Tory reason - which is panic reaction to their own failings - but because we have a climate emergency that demands a Green New Deal and that in turn demands government spending on investment at an unprecedented rate that I have no doubt people are [willing to fund](#)?

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