

## Alok Sharma: the only trick question being asked is why...

Published: January 13, 2026, 9:33 am

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*I share this, sent to David Lowry:*

**Alok Sharma** is (quite rightly) being widely criticised by journalists for suggesting that it is unfair for broadcasters to ask ministers to explain details of coronavirus restrictions. (See [10.01am.](#)) **Here are some of the comments he's attracting on Twitter.**

**From Laura Kuenssberg**, the BBC's political editor

*Laura Kuenssberg (@bbclaurak)*

*Not sure it really flies to say it's a 'gotcha' question to expect govt ministers to know what the rules are that they are asking millions of people to follow*

[September 30, 2020](#)

From **Jason Groves**, the Daily Mail's political editor

*Jason Groves (@JasonGroves1)*

*Business Sec [Alok Sharma](#) accuses media of 'gotcha' journalism for asking ministers the details of Covid laws they are imposing on people. Pathetic*

[September 30, 2020](#)

From **Nick Robinson**, the Today presenter

*Nick Robinson (@bbcnickrobinson)*

*I don't think the producers of Pointless will be too worried about the competition. Believe it or not we ask questions to get the answers not to prove that politicians don't*

know them <https://t.co/5k2b9BIXJz>

**September 30, 2020**

From the Daily Mirror's **Dan Bloom**

*Dan Bloom (@danbloom1)*

*Alok Sharma has said asking [Boris Johnson](#) to know the regulations in the North East was "one of those 'gotcha' questions".*

***Try using that excuse with police who are issuing you with a fine!***

**September 30, 2020**

From Bloomberg's **Emily Ashton**

*Emily Ashton (@elashton)*

*Alok Sharma suggesting on Radio 4 that ministers being asked about details of Covid restrictions is like a "quiz show" - not a good look*

**September 30, 2020**

From LBC's **Theo Usherwood**

*Theo Usherwood (@theousherwood)*

*The last time a political party deployed the "it's not a quiz show" line to straight forward questions they couldn't answer was when Diane Abbott failed to explain how Labour would employ more police officers.*

*That's the territory the Government appears to occupy right now.*

**September 30, 2020**

From openDemocracy's **Caroline Molloy**

*CarolineJMolloy (@carolinejmolloy)*

*The arrogance of this from Alok Sharma is astonishing, particularly given how disingenuous and evasive government press departments have become lately.*

What next? “No, we won’t have parliamentary questions, it’s not a quiz show?”  
<https://t.co/4zK0CFdz3f>

**September 30, 2020**