

# Funding the Future

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In the face of the most incredible health crisis this country might ever have faced we are this morning facing complete uncertainty as to the government's response.

Yesterday's cabinet meeting appears to have failed. It could not decide, in the face of overwhelming scientific evidence, to take any action at all to prevent avoidable deaths in the UK, which will now happen.

It would seem certain that the triumvirate of those demanding action, comprising Johnson, Gove and Javid, were opposed by a lunatic fringe comprising Sunak, Truss and the lesser known Grant Shapps and Stephen Barclay.

I have little doubt that talk of resignation was in the air. Of those holding out against action few doubt Sunak was in the lead. He likely claimed the issue was cost. We do, however, know that this is absurd.

The money required to support the UK economy now can be created costlessly and without inflation risk. Anyone who disagrees has not been paying attention for the last decade.

What is more, we know that unless Covid is beaten the cost to the economy is going to be much higher than the net cost of intervention, so any prevarication on these grounds would also be a sham: that argument does not exist.

There do then have to be other reasons why these ministers wish for people to die unnecessarily. Those reasons are not hard to find.

First, for Sunak and Truss this is no doubt to cement their appeal with the far-right in the forthcoming leadership election. People will die so that they can get their dream job.

Second, people will also die because these people would rather than admit that the government can create all the money we need to tackle this crisis.

Third, that is because they have to, in their opinion, maintain this line to have an excuse for austerity. Since this had already caused considerable numbers of deaths a

few more weigh little on their consciences. Those deaths are, as they would say, 'built in to the policy'.

Fourth, we have to also accept that these people really are not clever enough to comprehend exponential growth and its consequences.

Add all that up and we have Sunak leading a faction, supported by Truss, whose foundations are callous indifference to the well-being of the people of this country for the purpose of appealing to the Tory right-wing who will, they think, select the next Prime Minister.

This is the depth to which UK politics has now sunk.