

Funding the Future

Appeasement is not a policy that works with the far-rig...

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This is a headline from [The Telegraph yesterday](#):



There is every reason to think that the editors got to the actual article between it being submitted and publication. Paul Nuki, its author, [is considerably more pessimistic on Twitter](#):



7:16 PM · Jan 1, 2022 · Twitter Web App

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The Telegraph gets it. It's likely that Johnson has got this stage of the pandemic wrong, yet again. He should have acted two weeks ago, [when I wrote this](#):

Tax Research UK Richard Murphy on tax, accounting and political economy

To describe today, and the decisions that will be taken during its course, as pivotal to not just what happens in 2022, but to the longer-term with regard to the political economy of this country, is an understatement

Posted on December 19 2021

I apologise for being the bearer of bad news on this last Sunday before Christmas, but the current economic outlook is dire.

I base this gloomy prognosis on the report of SAGE - the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies. They **published a new report yesterday evening**, although it was presented to the government on 15 December. The report is unambiguous. In the summary they say:

SPI-M-O has considered an updated range of scenarios from 2 academic groups who have modelled the impact of Omicron transmission on trajectories of infections, hospitalisations, and deaths. **These groups suggest it is almost certain that there will be a very substantial peak of infections (much larger than occurred during January 2021).** There are highly likely to be between 1,000 and 2,000 hospital admissions per day in England by the end of the year. Many of these hospitalisations are already 'in the system' due to the lags between infection, symptom onset, and the subsequent need for health care. **The recently announced expanded and expedited booster vaccination programme will not affect transmission and severe and mild disease in time to mitigate these hospitalisations for the rest of 2021.**

Johnson did not act. He 'saved' Christmas instead.

He is not acting now. He's 'saving' education instead.

Sunak has not acted. He's 'saving' the Treasury's money instead.

And we face the most massive immediate crisis as a result. There is evidence that one in ten people who get omicron many get long Covid, with massive consequences.

These people are saving nothing. Polls, thankfully, suggest that they are not even saving their own political futures.

In the meantime, many people will suffer wholly unnecessarily to appease the idiots on the right-wing of the Conservative party.

Brexit was meant to pacify them. It didn't.

Now Covid inaction is meant to pacify them. It won't.

And we can have no doubt that climate inaction will be designed to pacify them too. And that will not work either. Destruction is their aim.

Appeasement is not a policy that works with the far-right. History taught us that. How many times have we got to learn it again? We need to do so. When it comes to climate it would be too late if we did it again.