

I hope that the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committ...

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Bank of England has today raised interest rates to 0.75% in a move that will have no impact on inflation but which will help push millions into increasing debt and poverty. It's as if the government wants to make life as tough as possible for people in this country.

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In very many ways there is little that I can add to that: the simple fact is that UK household budgets are going to be crushed beyond imagination over the coming year by real cost of living increases, meaning that nothing that the Bank of England can achieve by pushing up interest rates now is going to do anything but force yet more people into debt and poverty, which is going to be the fate of millions in the UK unless Rishi Sunak does something really radical next week.

In other words, this increase is utterly pointless in delivering any inflation objective, but is callous in creating yet further unnecessary impositions on household budgets that millions will be unable to meet.

I do hope that those on the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee who voted for this can live with their consciences: I could not have done if I had done so.