

The Tories are the enemy of the survival of human life ...

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The Sunak story (on which I am still broadcasting this morning, suggesting that it is not going away as yet) has distracted me from other significant issues over the last few days. There are, war in Ukraine and the French election apart, two of significance to review. They relate to the government's new energy policy, and the developing crisis in the NHS, both of which indicate the inability of this government to work out its priorities, and deliver a strategy to deal with them.

The energy policy has been heavily condemned, with [the FT taking a strong lead](#) in doing so, with no sign that it is going to let up. There is [more criticism from it out this morning](#).

The crisis in energy is fourfold. First, we have a short term supply problem. Second, we have a climate crisis. Third, we clearly use too much energy in that context. Fourth, no one knows what to do about nuclear power and the waste it gives rise to, which is why it was being allowed to be phased out, albeit without any decision as to what to replace it with because of political dithering, almost all of it because the Tories have been anxious not to go green. You can play around with these, but I think they are the core issues needing to be addressed.

The short term issues demanded, as I have always campaigned for, massive investment in insulation and more wind and solar energy. There is no indication that any of these things will happen. In other words, whatever short term issue there is this policy completely fails to address it. In that case it is simply not a response to the crisis, at all. As a policy, it fails as a result.

As a green policy and response to climate change it fails totally by failing to address demand and how it can be reduced. Again, there is literally nothing in what has been said that comes near addressing the issue that needs to be addressed on climate-related matters, which is the reduction in energy use we must make. So again, as a policy, it fails.

The reason for both of these failures is very apparent: Johnson is under pressure from

his party to go nowhere near green issues, and he has succumbed to it. They will not change planning laws to allow onshore wind, and they do not believe in the need to cut consumption when their entire ethos in life is about its maximisation. The green frontier that we need to face to save life on earth is becoming very apparent. The Tories are the enemy of survival.

Finally, there is nuclear power. Not only is a policy based on nuclear not a policy at all, because the timescales involved in this issue are so long, but it also completely fails any reasonableness test because no one does as yet know how to deal with nuclear waste, and for that reason this is quite literally no solution, in the same way that it never has been.

To pretend that the current energy crisis will only be solved by 2050, when in practice by that point we will be in complete climate crisis anyway, about which nothing is being done, is a farce, and that is the best it can be said about this entire supposed policy.