

The Tories have forgotten the past and are wholly indif...

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Anyone who watched last night's ITV Tory leadership debate (and please see my Twitter feed for commentary) will have despaired at the poverty of thinking on display. It was truly dire.

Two reports this morning add to the sense of gloom. First, [the FT notes](#):

A government plan to deregulate the City of London and foster a post-Brexit 'Big Bang' will trigger a battle this week with the Bank of England, which is seeking to defend high standards and its regulatory autonomy. A radical financial services bill, drawn up by former chancellor and Tory leadership contender Rishi Sunak, will be published on Wednesday. It will pave the way for ministers to be able to "call in" regulatory decisions made by the BoE that they do not like.

It's as if they have entirely forgotten 2008.

And then [there is this in Politico](#):

A new poll for [the Times](#) reveals Conservative members literally couldn't care less about cutting greenhouse gas emissions. Hitting net zero came bottom of a list of 10 priorities, behind (surprise, surprise) cutting personal taxes and hiking defense spending. Just 4 percent of respondents said saving the planet was in their top three priorities for the next prime minister.

No wonder the Tory leadership candidates are so indifferent to the issue. Now, of course, the Tory membership is old, male and very pale and stale, and that explains a lot of this (old, pale males being responsible for a lot of the worth things in this country - and I am not kidding) but it is still profoundly worrying. The future? Who needs one of them seems to be the attitude.

Worry.