

Funding the Future

Labour, democracy, twaddle and existential meaningless

Published: January 13, 2026, 6:21 am

Labour is going to publish a constitutional review tomorrow, written by Gordon Brown.

We can be sure that:

- a) PR will not get a look on;
- b) House of Lords reform will;
- c) Scotland will be denied a referendum;
- d) There will be some nonsense on devolution.

I write this tweet in anticipation:



Richard Murphy
@RichardJMurphy

Of course Labour could reform the House of Lords.

And it could tinker with devolution.

Or it could give us proportional representation.

And it could give Scotland a referendum on independence.

It's Labour's choice: peripheral politics or real democracy? Which side is it on?

8:45 AM · Dec 4, 2022

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I increasingly wonder what the point of Labour is. I note Jo Maugham in a similar mood today, saying:

 **Jo Maugham** ✓
@JolyonMaugham

A Party that wants power but doesn't know why is a Party focused on its, not on your, interests.

Labour may yet give us reason to vote for it but, much though I hate this Government, I cannot hope for a Labour majority in Parliament.

From [@Neal_Compass](#).



[newstatesman.com](#)
Labour's manipulation of selection contests reveals its emptiness of purpose
Keir Starmer's party is fast becoming a desiccated calculating machine that offers nothing but a small target.

5:29 PM · Dec 3, 2022

The article Jo refers to is by Neil Lawson from Compass, another friend. If we all think like this, I think Labour should be worried. I suspect its leadership too insular to do so.