

The neoliberals are missing the ball on the NHS

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As I tweeted yesterday:

<https://twitter.com/richardjmurphy/status/1634670202666328072?s=61&t=fQEnD35XLiGihXLT1M1wyA>

The BBC discussed the budget yesterday, and Lineker, and anything but the fact that the NHS has reached the point where junior doctors are paid less than people in Pret and is falling apart due to the deliberate stranglehold on funding supplied to it by successive Tory governments.

The focus in the media was on what could not supposedly be said about a government that is failing us rather than on what that government needs to do to serve us.

On Friday doctors met the government to discuss pay. No minister bothered to turn up.

Yesterday the government appealed to doctor's consciences but this is a government that now denies the reality of Covid and refuses to let people be treated for it whilst ignoring maybe 500 excess deaths a week because of its failure to fund the NHS adequately. The need for a conscience falls on ministers and not those who know things are only getting worse.

Is this situation recoverable? The answer is yes. But not with anything either the Tories or Labour are proposing at present. Neoliberalism and its hatred of government is the problem here. And both those parties are fully paid up subscribers to that philosophy. People will continue dying as a result.