

## Elsewhere in the media

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Yesterday was a busy day in the media for me.

Apart from a letter in The Guardian ([already noted](#)) and an appearance on the Jeremy Vine show on BBC Radio 2 to defend Coutts Bank right to refuse banking services to Nigel Farage, I also had an article in [AccountingWEB](#), expanding on the need for the government to publish its Whole of Government Accounts as soon as possible:

### **The Whole of Government Accounts have gone missing**

by [Richard Murphy](#)

Richard Murphy asks how the powers that be can be held to account if the Whole of Government Accounts for 2020/21 and 2021/22 have still not been filed.

20th Jul 2023 [3 comments](#)



And in my [usual weekly column](#) in The National in Scotland, I explored why Licy Powell MP might have wanted to claim 'there is no money left', with unflattering conclusions:

#### **So what should Lucy Powell have said?**

What Lucy Powell could have said is that Labour thinks it has run out of opportunities to tax and so cannot spend any more and still control prices. That would have made sense.

Except, that is, for one thing. And that is that there are massive opportunities to raise tax in our economy. I estimate that if the wealthiest paid tax on their increases in wealth at the same rate as the rest of us pay tax on our increases in income, then Labour could raise up to £170 billion a year more in tax.

So, yet again, Lucy Powell's comment makes no sense unless we interpret her comment in one last way, which is that Labour intends to run a government that will

I also turned down doing Radio 5 at 5am this morning. Does anyone really listen at that time?