

Funding the Future

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I noticed this tweet yesterday:

<https://twitter.com/nazirafzal/status/1693578028243386574?s=20>

I would suspect Nazir Afzal was eminently suited to the jobs he applied for.

I had a similar experience. About twenty years ago, maybe a little less, I applied to be a non-exec director at an NHS Trust. I had long experience as a director, was a chartered accountant and had some knowledge of the MHS and related issues.

I was rejected because, apparently, I could not demonstrate financial ability, my written application was poor, and my verbal reasoning skills were, apparently, limited. I had been writing for newspapers and journals for years by then and was regularly contributing to radio and television documentaries at that time precisely because I could interpret complex financial issues in ways people could comprehend.

I admit I did not get too upset about it. What I realised, as Nazir has, is that what was required were people who would not rock the boat. I would have done, and that was definitely enough to block my application.

They need not have made up a load of nonsense though. That did worry me.