

## Is Sunak doing all he can to avoid the issue?

Published: January 14, 2026, 8:59 am

---

Roy Lilley is an experienced (by which I mean old enough to be retired) NHS manager who writes a daily email on health management-related issues that I subscribe to because, whilst I do not always agree with what he has to say, there is sufficient to make me call again, and I like the way he says it.

This [morning, he discusses](#) AI and dismisses a great deal of what we already think of as AI as not being anything of the sort, useful as it is.

He also suspects that we are further from true AI than most suspect. So, he muses on why there was such a fuss made of the issue last week, leading to that quite hideous job interview when Sunak begged Musk for a role in California post-2024. This is his suggestion:

**There's a very disturbing psychological disorder called Munchausen by proxy in which a care giver;**

***'... exaggerates, fabricates, or induces illness in another person in order to get praise, for then helping the victim.'***

***The Harvard Business Review proposes, 'Munchausen-in-the-Workplace'.***

A three year study of team behaviour in more than 30 companies across industries, found managers who created problems, so they could be praised for heroically fixing them.

***So, is Rishi Sunak's heroic assemblage of the great and the good, to fight the 'threat of AI'... a bit of political Munchausen?***

Why is he disproportionately involved in leading the 'battle'?

***Well, we stopped thinking about;***

\* interest rates,

- \* the housing crisis,
- \* food poverty,
- \* the debacle in social care,
- \* Ukraine,
- \* the Middle East,
- \* NHS waiting times,
- \* crime and policing,
- \* the up-shot of Brexit,
- \* migration,
- \* flooded houses,
- \* education
- \* the cost of fuel
- \* and the pretty grubby behaviour of some of the Tory Party over the last week.

***If it's not Munchausen...***

... it's using the 'machinery' of government communication in a simple piece of ...

... misdirection.

That's why it's worth my while ***noting what he has to say, because I think that is spot on.***