

Starmer's already given up

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Having been away for a long weekend - and, as usual, having kept the blog going despite supposedly being on holiday - I am now back and catching up with things. My apologies to all those who had to wait some time for moderation.

Late this morning, I did have time to post some quick reactions to what Keir Starmer had been saying. I wrote this Twitter thread:

 **Richard Murphy** ✓ @RichardJMurphy

There is literally no need at all for Labour to deliver a painful budget in October. There is a massive capacity to increase taxes on wealth. If Labour wanted to borrow they could. And there are people who want good work.

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 **Richard Murphy** ✓ @RichardJMurphy · 6h

So, the 'pain' is all about Starmer & Reeves' choice to deliver hardcore neoliberal dogma and not meet people's needs.

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 **Richard Murphy** ✓ @RichardJMurphy · 6h

Starmer is worse than the Tories. They at least admitted to their pleasure at imposing austerity. He pretends he has no choice but do it when that's completely untrue. He's choosing to undertax wealth, under deliver services, and over deliver misery.

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 **Richard Murphy** ✓ @RichardJMurphy · 6h

I knew Labour would be bad, but they're already plumbing depths in their determination to appease wealth, the City and far-right economic dogmatists that I could not have imagined.

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They are, quite emphatically, LINO - Labour In Name Only.

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And who will pay for this? Children in poverty. Many pensioners. Those dependent on public services. Anyone in education. Business, because the economy will not flourish. Pretty much all of us then. And Labour seemingly just doesn't care.

I then followed that with this Tweet:



And finally, this one:



If my frustration shows, so be it. It needs to do so. Starmer and Reeves are an utter disgrace to the whole history of the labour movement, social democratic thinking and the people who so recently elected them in good faith, thinking they might deliver something better than the Tories.

I have summarised how I feel in this final thread, posted this evening:



I am not sure there is a lot to add.