

## The PFI disaster

Published: January 13, 2026, 8:57 am

---

I took part in a Podcast for The National newspaper in Scotland this week, discussing the Private Finance Initiative (PFI). The other guest was Robin McAlpine, although we were not recorded together, but were instead recorded consecutively. That's a shame. I like time in Robin's company and I think the feeling is mutual.

This is the resulting episode. It is free on Spotify, but you might suffer an advert or two:

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/2WeUmfBaHCTqdwLR6jeF8z?si=ISNVaN0RQ6S8LKDQE t0MUA&t=1854>