

Funding the Future

Article URL

<https://www.taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2024/09/17/77750/>

Published: January 12, 2026, 5:11 pm

I put up a Twitter poll yesterday, asking whether the state pension should be means tested. After 20 hours this was the result:



Roughly one in six people say yes, it should be. That is a bit more than the proportion who pay higher rate tax, but without any evidence to support this assertion at all, I would strongly suspect some overlap.

The vast majority are opposed.

Of course, this is not scientific, but I have a suspicion that this is quite likely to be representative of opinion: people do feel strongly on this issue, as the comments suggest.

I have little doubt that Labour will look to move in this direction at some time, preferring to do so instead of taxing those with the means to pay in our society, and who are at present seriously undertaxed, as the Taxing Wealth Report 2024 (see right hand column) makes clear. Doing so will, however, be incredibly unpopular.

But would that be enough to stop the Single Transferable Political Party now in power in the UK, which guarantees that any government in office exists to serve the interests of the wealthy taking such action? After all, is there any serious opposition to whatever it does now?