

Keeping the shit flowing

Published: January 13, 2026, 7:07 pm

I notice the juxtaposition of these headlines in an FT email this morning:

Government to spend extra £200mn on flood defences in England

Environment secretary Steve Reed tells FT previous Tory administration committed a 'dereliction of duty'

Business

Thames Water burns through £15mn a month on lawyers and advisers

Troubled utility tells court hearing for emergency loan that restructuring costs could top £200mn

The government is going to spend about the same sum to stop shit-filled water flooding into people's houses as Thames is doing to keep the flow of that water going.

As an indication of how the values within our society are deeply misplaced, that takes some beating.