

Funding the Future

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What will always be, I suspect, a one-off event for me happened yesterday.

When I had finished recording the last two videos in the series on tax transparency for developing country tax authorities that I have been making with Sheffield University, working in association with the [Global Initiative for Fiscal Transparency](#), I concluded work on all the project deliverables that I expect to complete before my formal retirement from employment later this month, if not from work.

The curiosity of the event was highlighted by having another research project on sustainable cost accounting finish last Friday, with all project deliverables going in on time, and having concluded my work on the last chapter for which I am responsible for the Accounting Streams project on Monday.

Having spent the last 18 months or so working almost every moment available to me, starting with work on the Taxing Wealth Report 2024, and then on each of these projects, I suddenly find myself with a very different 'to do' list.

Admittedly, there is admin to complete. No project concludes when the deliverables have been signed off. However, within another three or four weeks, I hope that all those issues will be concluded to broadly coincide with my official retirement date. Then, for the first time in what feels like a very long time, how I use my working hours will be very much a matter of my choosing.

My first choice is not to take on many other tasks. I've already turned down job offers and some invitations if they involve any significant amount of travel, simply because I want to have time to think more clearly about what I do next. Apart from continuing to write blogs and produce a daily video, absolutely nothing about that alternative potential future agenda is certain at present.

What I do know is that I will be working. I have no desire to stop doing so. There is just too much to do in this world. I am also utterly uninterested in the standard, supposed, retirement occupations of golf and multiple overseas holidays a year. Nothing is more undesirable to me. But I am letting the new ideas grow rather than rush them. That does seem to be appropriate now. And if I do a bit of birdwatching whilst doing that

thinking, so be it.