

Funding the Future

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According [to a report](#) in The Telegraph this morning:

Sir Keir Starmer needs to stop “pussyfooting around” and make policy as decisively as Donald Trump, the chairman of Labour’s [Red Wall group](#) of MPs has said.

Jo White has called on the Prime Minister to start showing some leadership after Labour suffered a string of defeats to Reform at Thursday’s local elections, including losing the Runcorn and Helsby by-election.

She told the Prime Minister to “take a leaf” out of Donald Trump’s book and announce policies such as a regional [grooming gang inquiries](#), a crackdown on immigration and investment in left-behind industrial heartlands.

This group of Labour backbench MPs is particularly nasty and dangerously right-wing. I would describe the utterances of most of them that I have noticed as toxic. This is just another example, playing straight into the far-right agenda that is already failing in the US, and which will fail here in the UK when it becomes very apparent how dire Reform councils will turn out to be.

We do not want extra-parliamentary rule by our prime minister, with scant regard being shown for the democratic process.

The [grooming gang issue has been investigated](#), and inquiries have been held, and the key thing is that recommended actions need to be taken (which the Tories totally failed to do), rather than more time being wasted in yet further inquiries, all of which pander to a far-right agenda that does not want solutions but which instead wants to provoke tension and fear.

A crackdown on immigration is a racist agenda: we cannot do without it.

And investment in industrial heartlands means what, precisely? I am not opposed to the idea, but the phrase is utterly meaningless.

This headless politics that is pandering to fear whilst fuelling it. It is the last thing we need. And almost ten per cent of Labour MPs are signed up to it. No wonder we are in

deep trouble.