

Pat McFadden: the single handed explanation for the mes...

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As [the BBC has noted](#), we now know as a result of the Mandelson disclosures that:

The man who is now work and pensions secretary described conversations he had with other Labour politicians about the welfare system and public spending in a pretty blunt way.

"Every meeting I have is 'who can we tax in order to pay benefits to others'," Pat McFadden wrote to Lord Mandelson in May 2025.

"They're asking the wrong questions," McFadden adds.

Allies of McFadden point out that message was sent before he was in charge of the UK's benefits regime. He was running the cabinet office at the time.

That's a lame excuse. The reality is, as I know from several meetings with him over an extended period, Pat McFadden is a man of very little intelligence, and even less curiosity. He is also a true heir to Blair, and his fundamentally neoliberal to his core. The consequences are threefold.

First, he does not believe in redistribution. So very typical of Labour, these days, then.

Second, he does not understand that taxes do not pay for anything.

Third, he does not understand that money is created by the government when it spends.

What does all this mean?

First, his lack of curiosity should bar him from public office.

Secondly, he should never have had a role in Labour, or in the current government, or responsibility for work and pensions.

Third, he should learn to ask the right questions, because at present, he clearly cannot because he lacks the education to do so.

If you want an explanation for the mess that Labour is in, Pat McFadden can provide it, single-handedly.