

Rearmament is not the answer to any known question

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According [to the FT](#), UK Chancellor of the Exchequer John Healey will claim today that, and I quote, "Britain is about to enter "a new age of industrialisation" as he confirms a £6 billion plan to build three new floating docks at the Royal Navy submarine base on the Clyde in Scotland."

The echoes of the 1930s ring heavily in my ears as a result.

It was rearmament that revived economies then, at the cost of the lives of many millions of people worldwide after six or more years of war.

Now, apparently, rearmament is to be the answer to our problems.

That will not work.

Rearmament will not meet the needs of the people of this country.

Rearmament will not build homes.

Rearmament will not deliver the technology required to tackle the climate crisis.

Rearmament will not make our transport system sustainable.

Nor will it improve our resilience when it comes to food.

Rearmament will not teach people in this country how to live with a very different world.

Rearmament will not deliver a Green New Deal.

Rearmament, especially using submarines, provides weapons for a type of warfare that almost certainly no longer exists.

Rearmament provides no answers to today's questions.

But it is so very typical of today's Labour. It provides the answer that big business wants to a question framed for yesterday's needs that is of no consequence to the current requirements of this country or its people.

And that is exactly where Labour now is.

It is not where we need to be.

And we will all pay the price for that.