Funding the Future

Coming soon, with Novara Media

Published: November 5, 2026, 7:39 am

I spent much of yesterday travelling to and from, and then taking part in, an extended Novara Media interview with Aaron Bastani.

This will come out on Sunday as part of their Downstream series and will be about two hours 15 minutes after editing, I am told. That will apparently be their second-longest ever interview. We found a lot to talk about.

I was genuinely pleased to get this invitation, and I know many people have asked why this has not happened before now. Even Aaron did during the recording. I suspect my Channel 4 podcast, which has now got nearly 550,000 views, might have been a tipping point on this one.

What did we discuss? Essentially, the state of politics, the state of the economy, and how we might manage the crises coming our way in some way or another.

The Iran conflict, AI, food supply chain issues and climate change all get an inevitable look-in.

So, too, did reactions to the far right.

And, as I expected, since Aaron has previously made clear his difficulties with it, so did MMT. Here I was quite clear. I said MMT explains how money works, just as Newtonian physics explains how gravity works. MMT is not a belief system. It explains what is. Aaron seemed to buy that.

The key point I made, and this is where I markedly differ with some in MMT, is that it is not a political programme. Some claim it is. I disagree. The point is that MMT is a platform which explains money on which the foundations of economic policy can then be built.

We did, however, cover a great deal more than that, including a lot on my methodology, motivation and methods of campaigning.

The video comes out at 3pm on Sunday. I will share it here.