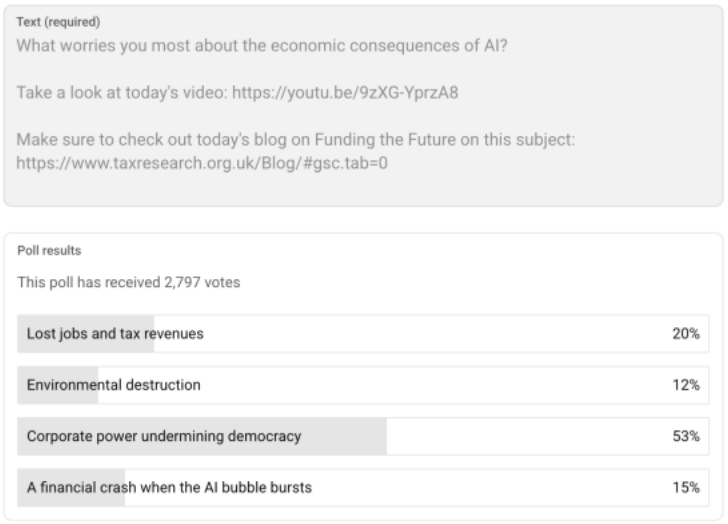
Funding the Future

The threat from AI: your view

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I was fascinated by the results of the polls that I put out on yesterday's video.

This was the poll on YouTube, including the questions and results from around 2,800 votes.



I was not expecting that the systemic risk from AI corporate power to democracy was going to be ranked as the biggest threat by more than half of those voting in this poll.

The number voting on this blog was much smaller, with the trends in voting being slightly different because environmental concerns were much higher, but the threat to democracy still came first.



I presumed that economic threats to jobs and markets that might give rise to a financial crash would come first. This was not the case.

I have three options to now consider as a consequence. The first is to consider that those voting are not representative of the population as a whole, and therefore I should continue to focus on the immediate economic consequences.

Second, I should believe the result and focus more upon the systemic issues, which is, admittedly, the framing of my forthcoming book, *How to Govern*.

Third, I should mix the two, understanding that people have much broader fears than personal self-interest would imply. They are not as neoliberal as I might assume, in other words.

Of these options, the third is by far the most attractive, and is the one I will be heading for.

AI is a massive threat to life as we know it, in just about every way we can imagine. It needs to be tackled head-on.