



## **Stop plugging the holes - build a new ship**

How long will it be before UK politicians and economists realise that plugging the holes on a sinking ship is not the answer and a new ship is needed? The recent Spring Statement by Chancellor Rachel Reeves has again failed to admit the fundamental iniquity of the UK's fiscal system by merely tweaking some of our current unfair, impractical and economically inefficient taxes rather than addressing any of the system's deep underlying problems.

The Labour Land Campaign (LLC) argues the UK's tax system is not fit for purpose for a host of economic, social and environmental reasons. The list of shortcomings is endless: taxes on productive activity shrink the economy and make many small businesses non-viable; people on low and middle incomes pay out a far greater proportion of their incomes than those at the top of the pile; taxes are avoided or evaded by the richest individuals, businesses and landowners; our natural resources are wasted, held out of use and even destroyed so their "owners" can make huge unearned incomes from their economic value that we all create.

LLC Chair Murad Qureshi says "We need to step back and realise our tax system is fundamentally flawed and unfair. We need to understand how past growth in the economy has affected the economic value of land and other natural resources and then apply that understanding to reforming our system to shift taxes off earned income and onto the unearned income of the owners of land and other natural resources. The value of these assets stems from society's need for homes and products but most of the financial benefit goes to a small minority of citizens (and non-citizens). Given a centuries-long history of policy-making having been dominated by landed interests, it's not surprising that our current fiscal system favours those who extract wealth over those who create it but surely it's time for a progressive party to begin thinking about how to redress such pernicious historical distortion."ENDS

***The Labour Land Campaign is a voluntary organisation working for land reform.  
It advocates a fairer distribution of land wealth through a Land Value Tax.***

For more information see [www.labourland.org](http://www.labourland.org)

**Contact details**

Press Officer: Anthony Molloy

Email: [anthony1molloy@gmail.com](mailto:anthony1molloy@gmail.com)

Telephone: +44 (0)7704 116 238

URL for posting on Twitter:

[https://www.labourland.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Labour-Land-Campaign-Press-Release\\_24062024\\_Two-carrots-and-a-stick\\_draft.pdf](https://www.labourland.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Labour-Land-Campaign-Press-Release_24062024_Two-carrots-and-a-stick_draft.pdf)