

Robert Peston's tweet thread, 13<sup>th</sup> May:

"Public servants, Whitehall, being told by PM that 91,000 are surplus to requirements and a pay rise of 3% is sufficient when inflation is heading for 10%. They're also being told they are slackers if they work from home. Morale among public servants being tested, to put it mildly.

"The over-arching theme of what @Jacob\_Rees\_Mogg is saying - including on my show - is that the imperative of bringing down inflation trumps anything else the government may wish to do.

"Pretty much everything he says suggests he wants a fiscal tightening by government, the opposite of the kind of measures to splash cash on those struggling with the rising cost of living demanded by opposition and some of his MPs. His plan to shrink civil service by 91,000 is wholly consistent with this, because it would increase the supply of labour in a jobs market that is being cooled anyway by looming recession.

"This isn't quite "it isn't working if it isn't hurting" but is close and is very redolent of 80s Thatcherism. Political battle lines are being redrawn fast and look a lot more traditional than of late."