## Covid-19 and the limited intellectual critical mass of political parties

What we are seeing with the two devastating reports recently released concerning the handling of the Covid-19 epidemic by the government is the rear-guard action by the government and Conservative party consisting of stonewalling and a failure to apologise for fear of tarnishing the image of their party.

The real cause of the mess was the lack of a critical intellectual mass within the political party ranks that had the common sense to predict and therefore establish safeguards to avoid deaths and unnecessary delays which caused yet more deaths.

Without having to rely on medical or scientific guidance it is self-evident that transferring people, who had not been tested, from Covid-19 wards in hospitals to care homes, would result in infections and deaths amongst the most vulnerable.

Extremely limited practical experience within the government led to their resorting to paying exorbitant amounts of money to people with no previous experience in delivering what the government was asking them to deliver e.g. track and trace or PE. The only qualification was that some awardee contracts were friends or acquaintances of ministers or the companies concerned were big but delivering completely different types of service but had executives or owners with the known status of being financial supporters of Conservative party .

In these cases, the limited vision of a tiny political party with a membership less than 0.2% of the electorate was the cause of this waste of money and their lack of practical experience and agency caused the disastrous care home and contractual outcomes.

The only success was delivered by the National Health Service, the vaccination programme.

However, the bottom line is that having a whole country and its constituency waiting for well designed and implemented actions to be taken by a small political party with a limited intellectual critical mass and with an equally ineffective opposition, present a case study on why we need politics without parties.

12<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

