



TRUMP COULD NOT AVOID PAYING A LAND VALUE TAX

If the US shifted their avoidable taxes onto the unearned wealth which land gives rich people like him, Donald Trump couldn't avoid paying his taxes.

You can't hide land in a tax haven.

In the UK, tax avoidance and evasion is a corrupt part of our tax system and needs to change urgently. Because our tax system does not reclaim unearned land wealth to pay for the public services that generate it, our economy is distorted with owners of land and other natural resources sucking wealth created by workers, taxpayers and good businesses out of the economy.

Nearly half of the UK's wealth is held in land and not one land owner has created a penny of it – land value arises from our combined demand for its use for homes, business, food production and public services.

For generations, those who own our land and natural resources not only have the power to use or misuse how each site is utilised but they also take the wealth that arises from land (location) value that should be recycled back to maintain and develop our public services – for the benefit of all, not the benefit of land owners.

John McDonnell, President of the Labour Land Campaign, argues that: "So long as there is no incentive for land owners to use their land sparingly and efficiently, we will continue to see high streets dying because rents are too high, blocks of flats standing empty because their owners live elsewhere and the numerous development sites with planning permission for homes and businesses remaining idle. We need to shift taxes off earned incomes and on to the unearned incomes of owners of land and natural resources. Then, land speculation and land hoarding would stop and homes would become affordable all over the UK to rent or buy and business premises would be used by new entrepreneurs, co-operatives, small businesses and larger ones expanding. Such a shift will allow the skills and talents of so many - that are currently lost to society because they can't afford to set up a business - to flourish.

An annual Land Value Tax (LVT) offers the opportunity for local and national government to have a sustainable income to invest in our public services and workers."

Trump and other tax avoiders and evaders are happy to have and use public services for themselves and their workforces but don't want to pay for them. John McDonnell continued: "We need a fair, unavoidable/evadable and green economy underpinned by a sustainable and green tax system that forces us all to use our natural resources sparingly for the benefit of today's and future generation, the world over."

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***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***

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