

## Twitter Thread by ScottishPanda



**ScottishPanda**

[@PandaScottish](#)



**[thread]**

### On the UK "will not hesitate" to tighten border

For the record

Months the UK "hesitated"

January 2020

February 2020

March 2020

April 2020

May 2020

June 2020

July 2020

August 2020

September 2020

October 2020

November 2020

December 2020

January 2021

February 2021

Priti Patel

Is eager to divulge internal debate held in cabinet to bolster her reputation & get a boost for Tory leadership post Boris

"On 'should we have closed our borders earlier?' the answer is yes, I was an advocate [of] closing them last March."

<https://t.co/A9hjkH5Wc4>

So this is going to be a really simple thread

I have a larger thread on Priti Patel

Which we will come to at the last

But I want to focus on

“On ‘should we have closed our borders earlier?’ the answer is yes, I was an advocate [of] closing them last March.”

So I would ask of Priti

What evidence did you have that informed your advocacy?

Did you have (to borrow a phrase) an "absolute burden of proof"?

Was it just a hunch or belief?

Were you trying to "do-good" so to speak?

<https://t.co/poqt44gLOU>

Ian Hislop explains to Priti Patel why she's wrong about supporting capital punishment, but she disagrees claiming "absolute burden of proof" means innocent people will never be wrongly executed. [#c4news](#) [@LBC](#) [#r4today](#) [#bbcqt](#) [#PoliticsLive](#) [#Newsnight](#) [#bbcaq](#) [#marr](#) [#GE2019](#) [pic.twitter.com/dsQ98AzHQH](https://pic.twitter.com/dsQ98AzHQH)

— I Am Incurable FCA (@ImIncurable) [September 15, 2019](#)

Now if I was Home Secretary

In March 2020

As a pandemic was raging out of control and resulting in a panicked delayed and late lock down

I would be marshalling and arguing

All my skills

All the evidence or views I held

To persuade my colleagues of my case

And behind that would come the fact

That I am the British Home Secretary

One of the senior offices of state in Her Majesty's Government

And the weight of that office behind marshalled behind that argument

If I had clearly failed to persuade your cabinet colleagues

In a room full of people who wanted to "take back control" of our borders

IF I had managed to fluff up persuading them that in the midst of a public health emergency they had allowed to "ramp up" out of control

I did not manage to persuade

I would take a lesson from that

On the evidence I brought

On the hunch I brought

And on how I marshalled my arguments and persuade people

And if I failed in March 2020

I would be eternally vigilant

As the UK death toll went from ..... well you know the numbers there through Spring of 2020

To where we are now

I would be keeping an eye on other countries that did similar travel restrictions

And how they fared with those

Of course - its no simple direct analogy - every country has a panoply of measures they choose to follow in containing coronavirus

To borrow a phrase

I would take notes

Boris Johnson 17/4/2020

"I've been comparing notes & talking to leaders around the ■, & I can tell you that ■■ is leading a growing global campaign amongst friends & allies"

And over the course of the virus progression

I would be revisiting that decision back in March 2020

And reminding my cabinet colleagues of the growing strength of concern and basis for travel restrictions

I would be refining and preparing the plans and detail of how to implement travel restrictions

So that should that day come when I do win the argument

The Home Office is ready to go

It has a plan

It is oven ready (again to borrow a phrase)

Here we are in February 2021

<https://t.co/j17jVgNRup>

See also

<https://t.co/EcMiSse8zn>

See also

<https://t.co/kLr2ubDbZm>

See also

<https://t.co/sayEF9YD2d>

Now I remember the days where Conservative's used to get annoyed at a Home Secretary for getting a number wrong

<https://t.co/ncVb1JKNQx>

See also:

<https://t.co/F0T5sMLj84>

On police funding - here's also a thread on the priorities of the "People's Government"

Yes the one who cut police funding for a decade

Denied the consequences

Blocked their local police federation

And now want your gratitude

<https://t.co/IXPhNLn3zv>

[thread] on the "great news"

and "listening to the people's priorities" <https://t.co/oqK08291fe>

— ScottishPanda (@PandaScottish) [October 29, 2020](#)

They also weaponise other topics

A reminder: they told the police to shut up and stop crying wolf

<https://t.co/Vro5bFrQNw>

.[@pritipatel](#) is either making up sentencing laws, or has hopelessly misunderstood how the existing law works.

As Danny says, there is no minimum sentence for the offence of assaulting an emergency worker. [#FakeLaw](#)  
<https://t.co/tCN2dAU4Cd>

— The Secret Barrister (@BarristerSecret) [June 8, 2020](#)

Anyway sorry back to Priti

it is the headline

gets it "wrong for second time in three days"

<https://t.co/Z6Hq9RKO9k>

So to end with two threads

One on Priti Patel

<https://t.co/P0ZGYvj9vj>

[thread]

The most difficult thing I find is writing the hook into a thread

There is a simple word

It is called Imagine

But first I want to focus on a different topic

Nigeria<https://t.co/bF4zaDguzh>

— ScottishPanda (@PandaScottish) [November 23, 2020](#)

And two more general questions

Priti Patel said Boris Johnson was "ahead of the curve"

Ask her to explain

1. What absolute burden of proof does she have for that claim?
2. What would the UK had looked like if we were "behind the curve"?

<https://t.co/7Hew6TrEgL>

Any time a Tory says

\u201cbuild back better\u201d

or

\u201cLevel up\u201d

Ask them a simple question

WHOM and WHAT are they building back better / levelling up FROM ?

A thread that starts on a number and goes on a long journey over the past decade <https://t.co/WOheFsftnu>  
[pic.twitter.com/fFzuLFsPOZ](https://t.co/WOheFsftnu)

— ScottishPanda (@PandaScottish) [February 11, 2021](#)

[@threadreaderapp](#) unroll please