Voices

Tackling terrorism is a difficult job – and that's why it should be taken away from Whitehall

The remarkably shallow election campaign focus on security reinforces the urgent need to depoliticise our collective response

Nigel Hall | Wednesday 7 June 2017 11:15 BST | 💬5 comments

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A soldier and armed police officer patrol along Whitehall *AFP/Getty*

As we grieve for the victims of recent terrorist attacks, we must shift to new ways of thinking to help us tackle the most brutal terrorist violence of modern times.

We are in this for the long haul, so our new approach must be above party politics. If it is to succeed, it requires the type of long-term strategic thinking and leadership that many politicians and community leaders have dodged for years. Most difficult for many, this must include rigorous analysis and honesty about past mistakes – including the occasional major failure caused by Whitehall group-think.