

## AI and the Coming Labour Shock

### The Board Room Blind Spot

#### Key Facts at a Glance

##### 1. Headline Projections

- + 20% UK unemployment within 24 months
- + 6.8 million people displaced
- + £30.6 billion annually in welfare costs

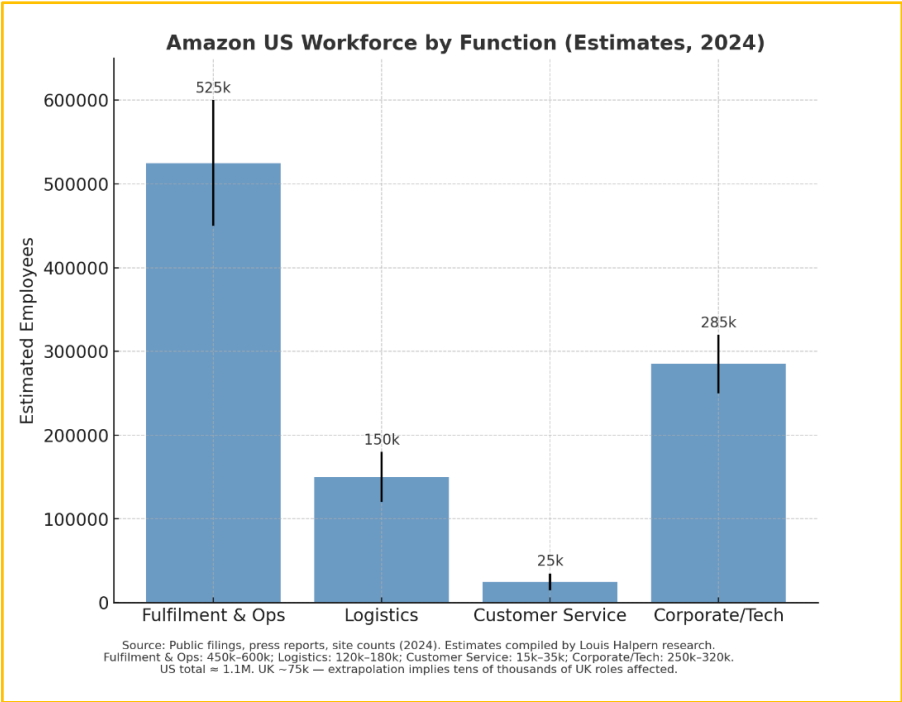
##### 2. Historical Comparison

- + 1980s Deindustrialisation: 11.9% unemployment (3.3m people)
- + Led to riots, extremist politics, and long-term social scars
- + AI disruption will be worse – because it eliminates the new jobs it creates

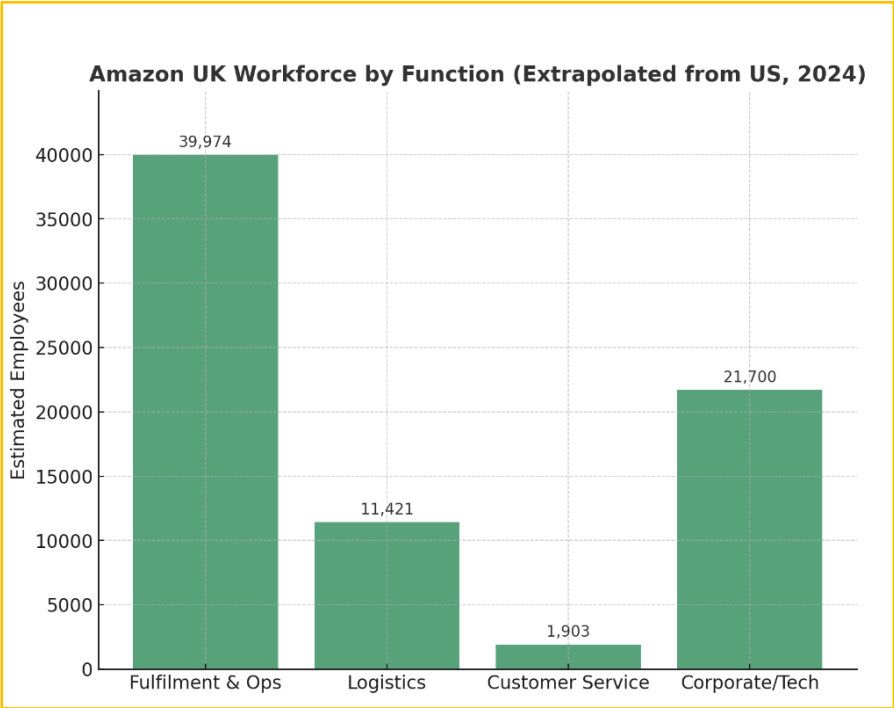
##### 3. Evidence Already Visible

- + Warehouses: 50% of roles disappearing imminently
- + Logistics: 20% already automating
- + Call centers: 30% displaced by chatbots and AI agents
- + Amazon UK example:
  - 75,000 employees across warehouses, logistics, call centers, corporate,
  - 31 fulfilment centers (1,500+ staff each,
  - 50% warehouse exposure alone translates into tens of thousands of roles,
  - £40bn UK investment
- + 1m+ robots deployed globally → pace will accelerate

4. Amazon US Workforce By Function



5. Amazon Workforce Extrapolation



## 6. The Strategic Blind Spot

- Corporate boardrooms celebrate AI's cost savings
- But mass unemployment means customers can't afford their products
- Efficiency without demand = systemic collapse


## 7. Solutions Roadmap (from 'You're All Fired. By an Algorithm')

- Emergency Relief Funds for displaced workers
- National Lifelong Learning Programmes
- AI Taxation to fund social safety nets
- Universal Basic Income (UBI) for security and stability

## 8. What's Next

The employment shock is not distant – it is already unfolding. Without preparation, the social and economic costs will dwarf those of past crises.

 [Read more in 'You're All Fired. By an Algorithm'](#)

 Let's discuss how your organisation can prepare