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Northern Ireland minister Steve Baker admitted the Conservative Party's election campaign is performing poorly, citing significant poll deficits. Baker acknowledged the dire situation during an interview, describing the party as a "mess" and expressing his desire to remedy the situation if re-elected.

Baker's remarks follow the controversy over alleged insider betting on the July 4 poll date, which has undermined Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's efforts. Sunak has since withdrawn support from two candidates implicated in the scandal. Baker emphasized the importance of maintaining high standards and denounced the insider betting implications.

Despite the campaign challenges, including not being consulted on election timing, Baker remains committed to his role. Speculation suggests Sunak might relinquish party leadership if the forecasted electoral defeat materializes.

**Opinion Polls Highlight Labour's Lead Over Conservatives**

Recent opinion polls indicate a substantial lead for Labour over the Conservatives as the General Election approaches. A poll by More in Common from June 21-23 shows Labour leading by 16 points, with Labour at 41%, Conservatives at 25%, and Reform at 15%. Redfield & Wilton's poll from June 21-24 places Labour 23 points ahead of Reform and 24 points over the Conservatives. Deltapoll's figures also show Labour 24 points in front of the Tories, with Labour at 43%, Conservatives at 19%, and Reform at 15%.

These polls reflect a consistent trend, with Labour maintaining significant leads. Reform Party's position varies, with some polls showing them slightly ahead of the Conservatives. Nigel Farage's Reform Party has experienced a surge in support, though recent backlash regarding his comments on Russia's invasion of Ukraine has impacted their standings.

Overall, Labour averages around 41%, Conservatives 20%, and Reform 17% as the election nears.