# Prime Minister Rishi Sunak calls UK General Election for 4 July 2024



Prime Minister Rishi Sunak announced on Wednesday that the UK general election will take place on 4 July 2024. The announcement, made outside 10 Downing Street in the rain, marks an early call to the polls, contrary to earlier indications that an election would be held in the autumn. Sunak emphasized the importance of this election, stating, "Now is the moment for Britain to choose its future."

The declaration has prompted numerous questions from the public and political commentators, including those posed during an “Ask Me Anything” session hosted by columnist John Rentoul. Topics included the rationale behind this timing, comparisons to past election polls, and speculations on the outcomes for key politicians like Chancellor Jeremy Hunt.

One notable comment came from SNP Westminster leader Stephen Flynn, who earlier questioned if Sunak was hesitant to call a summer election. Sunak's announcement followed just hours after this taunt, aligning with campaign preparations. Despite the earlier-than-expected timing, analyst predictions currently lean towards a Labour majority.

The election announcement has also sparked reactions from political figures and voters, with SNP's John Swinney criticizing the chosen date as it coincides with Scottish school holidays, alleging it shows the Conservative Party's disregard for Scotland. However, the overall sentiment remains that the British electorate will have the final say come 4 July.