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**SNP Campaigns to Regain Poll Position**

John Swinney, the newly appointed leader of the Scottish National Party (SNP), addressed the media during a campaign visit to Dumfries, part of the Dumfries and Galloway constituency currently held by Scottish Secretary Alister Jack. Swinney emphasized that the SNP must cover significant ground to catch up with Labour in the opinion polls ahead of the July 4 General Election. Polls currently place Labour at 35%, leading the SNP by five percentage points. Swinney underscored the importance of a united party effort to reclaim voter support across Scotland.

**Lucy Allan Suspended for Backing Reform UK Candidate**

Lucy Allan, the Conservative MP for Telford, has been suspended from the Conservative Party after endorsing Reform UK candidate Alan Adams. Allan, who announced last year she would not seek re-election, publicly supported Adams on social media, prompting immediate suspension by the Conservative Party. Allan argued her decision was based on her belief that Adams is the best candidate for the constituency. This move is seen as a significant blow to Prime Minister Rishi Sunak’s campaign, which has already faced multiple obstacles, including several other senior MPs announcing their departures ahead of the election.