# Labour MPs Retire Ahead of General Election, Uncertainty Surrounds Diane Abbott's Candidacy



Six Labour MPs, including Julie Elliott, Barbara Keeley, John Cryer, John Spellar, Virendra Sharma, and Kevin Brennan, have announced their retirement ahead of the UK's general election scheduled for 4 July 2024. Labour has opened applications for candidates in these safe seats, with key allies of Labour leader Keir Starmer expected to contest. Notable figures such as Josh Simons and Georgia Gould are anticipated to run.

Meanwhile, Dianу Abbott, who has been suspended from Labour since April 2023 due to her remarks on racism against Jewish, Irish, and Traveller people, remains unsure if she will be allowed to stand for Labour. The investigation concluded in December 2023, and she completed an antisemitism awareness course by February 2024. Despite the investigation ending, the decision on her candidacy lies with Labour's chief whip, Alan Campbell. Abbott's suspension has sparked controversy, with supporters urging her reinstatement. If the decision isn't made by 4 June, she may run as an independent.