# Record Number of Conservative and Labour MPs Opt Out of Re-election Ahead of 2024 General Election



As of May 28, 2024, a total of 127 Members of Parliament (MPs) have announced they will not be seeking re-election in the upcoming General Election on July 4. This includes a significant number of Conservative MPs, with 77 stepping down, which is the highest number in modern political history for the party. This surpasses the previous record of 72 Conservative MPs who stood down before the 1997 election.

Prominent Conservative MPs who will not be standing for re-election include former Prime Minister Theresa May, Michael Gove, Andrea Leadsom, Dominic Raab, and Matt Hancock. The Labour Party will see 28 of its MPs stepping down, including long-serving members Dame Margaret Beckett and Harriet Harman. The Scottish National Party (SNP) will have nine MPs stepping down, including Ian Blackford and Mhairi Black. Other departures include three Sinn Fein MPs, one Green MP, Caroline Lucas, and one Plaid Cymru MP, Hywel Williams.

This wave of retirements includes other notable figures such as Sir Graham Brady, Steve Brine, and Ben Wallace from the Conservative Party, as well as Yvonne Fovargue, Holly Lynch, and Kevan Jones from the Labour Party.

These resignations are part of a broader trend, with more than 20% of the 365 Conservative MPs elected in 2019 stepping down. The numbers reflect a significant shift in the political landscape leading up to the 2024 General Election.