# Sir Keir Starmer Advocates Labour Party Support During Scotland Rally



### Starmer Rallies in Scotland for Labour Party Support

On Friday, Sir Keir Starmer, leader of the UK Labour Party, emphasized Scotland's crucial role in achieving a Labour government during a rally near Glasgow. Accompanied by Scottish Labour leader Anas Sarwar, deputy national leader Angela Rayner, and shadow net zero secretary Ed Miliband, Starmer presented Labour’s six "first steps" for Scotland. The proposed steps include aims like economic stability, cutting NHS waiting lists, and establishing GB Energy, a state-owned company based in Scotland that focuses on renewable energy projects.

Starmer addressed concerns from trade unions about potential job losses due to Labour's net zero transition, assuring that oil and gas would remain part of the energy mix for many years and confirmed no licenses would be revoked. Highlighting Labour's plans, he noted that the strategy differs from the Conservative Party leaders like Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, whom he criticized for ignoring the ongoing energy transition.

In response to criticisms about his use of a private jet to travel between campaign events in Wales and Scotland, Starmer defended the decision as the most efficient way to manage a busy campaign schedule. Labour’s stance was that carbon offsets were utilized for such travels, maintaining their commitment to reducing environmental impact.

Scottish First Minister John Swinney expressed skepticism about Labour's plans, suggesting they might lead to continued austerity measures. He urged Starmer to deliver an emergency budget that prioritizes funding in health and education. Meanwhile, Scottish Tory chairman Craig Hoy criticized Scottish Labour for supporting some of the SNP-Green coalition’s policies.

Starmer’s "six steps" for Scotland include investments in green energy, job creation in the clean energy sector, and promoting Scotland’s influence within the UK's trade framework. This approach aims to win over Scottish voters by presenting Labour as a viable alternative to the current Tory governance and SNP's policies.

Sir Keir Starmer concluded his visit to Scotland facing both endorsements and criticisms, as he advanced Labour’s campaign for the upcoming general elections.