# Labour and Conservatives Unveil Battle Buses as Election Campaigns Intensify



**Labour and Conservatives Launch Battle Buses Amid Campaigning Efforts**

Election campaigning gained momentum as Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer and Prime Minister Rishi Sunak unveiled their respective party's battle buses on Saturday. Both leaders initiated these tours as part of broader efforts in preparation for the election on July 4.

* Labour's Campaign:
* Sir Keir Starmer, accompanied by Deputy Leader Angela Rayner and Shadow Chancellor Rachel Reeves, launched Labour's red campaign bus in Uxbridge. The bus is emblazoned with the party’s slogan “Change.”
* During the event, Starmer avoided questions related to Diane Abbott's candidacy, emphasizing that the issue had been resolved a day prior. Abbott, a veteran left-wing politician, was granted approval to stand for Labour after recent internal controversies.
* Starmer humorously compared Tory defections to waiting for buses, referencing recent Conservative MPs switching allegiance to Labour.
* Rayner is set to embark on a 5,000-mile tour to key battleground constituencies.
* Labour announced a series of reforms targeting employment and welfare benefits, aiming to increase the employment rate to 80%.
* Conservatives' Campaign:
* In Redcar, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak presented the Tories’ blue battle bus adorned with their slogan "clear plan, bold action, secure future."
* Sunak defended his £20 million funding pledge for 30 towns, responding to accusations of vote-buying by explaining the selection criteria and the objective methodology employed.
* Sunak criticized Starmer for his handling of the Abbott situation, questioning his consistency and decision-making.
* Other Political Actions:
* Liberal Democrat leader Sir Ed Davey paused his campaign activities for the weekend, with the Liberal Democrats already on the road with their yellow battle bus.
* Reform UK’s Nigel Farage campaigned in Ashfield, and George Galloway’s Workers Party of Britain launched its campaign in Ashton-under-Lyne.

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**Conservatives' Campaign:**

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**Other Political Actions:**

The parties are now fully engaged in their respective tours, focusing on pivotal regions as they strive to connect with voters ahead of the upcoming election.