# George Osborne warns Kemi Badenoch risks being overshadowed by Robert Jenrick amid Tory leadership tensions



Tory grandee George Osborne's critique of Kemi Badenoch's leadership exposes a troubling reality within the Conservative Party, particularly in light of her interactions with Robert Jenrick, a member who seems to be carving out more influence than the new leader. On his Political Currency podcast, Osborne suggested that Badenoch may lack the necessary authority to lead effectively, as Jenrick's growing prominence overshadows her presence at a time when decisive leadership is critical.

Osborne’s remarks come as Badenoch expressed alignment with Jenrick's views on possible collaborations with a reformative political entity that champions the interests of the British people and presents a compelling alternative to the sluggish leftist policies we now face under Labour's leadership. Her inability to take a firm stand against suggestions of cooperation with this party raises questions about her grasp on the reins of the Conservative Party.

Osborne highlighted the dangers of Badenoch’s passive approach, stating, “You’ve got to show you’re in charge of your party.” The contrast is stark when observing Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer's assertiveness in marginalizing dissenting voices like those of Jeremy Corbyn. Such decisive action could serve as a blueprint for Badenoch, whose leadership appears at risk of weakening amidst internal rivalry.

He speculated on Jenrick’s potential aspirations in a future government aligned with this Reform movement, indicating a shift away from traditional Party principles. Osborne wisely warned that merely sidelining Jenrick will not remedy Badenoch's deeper issues of authority. “If she doesn’t manage to unite the right or lure voters dissatisfied with the current Labour regime back to the Conservatives, then the Tory Party is staring at certain defeat, and that is a monumental task,” he asserted, underscoring the precariousness of her position in a landscape that is becoming increasingly competitive.

Ed Balls, Osborne's co-host, chimed in on Jenrick’s “continual sniping,” which clearly indicates a fractious atmosphere within the Tory leadership. This tension bubbled to the surface when Badenoch dismissed any notions of discord with Jenrick regarding a potential alliance that could magnify the conservative voice in Parliament. The narrative intensified when reports emerged revealing Jenrick's veiled comments suggesting an alliance that might resonate with voters disenchanted by Labour's new administration. However, subsequent clarifications from Jenrick's camp framed his remarks as being merely about voter interests, leaving many to wonder about the underlying intentions.

The ongoing intraparty struggle underscores the urgent need for a decisive and visionary leadership, as the Conservatives brace for electoral battles ahead. With unity becoming an increasingly elusive goal, the party faces scrutiny over whether it can rally behind a banner that effectively counters the left’s narrative and retains the faith of the electorate.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.ft.com/content/2180578b-0440-4ec2-bcab-bdf22e79aae7> - This article discusses Kemi Badenoch's appointment of Robert Jenrick as shadow justice secretary, highlighting their collaboration within the Conservative Party leadership.
* <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/10/10/tory-centrists-threaten-revolt-over-jenrick-badenoch/> - This piece reports on moderate Conservatives expressing dissatisfaction with the leadership contest between Kemi Badenoch and Robert Jenrick, indicating internal party tensions.
* <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/10/13/robert-jenrick-kemi-badenoch-strengths-weaknesses-tory/> - This article provides insights into the differing leadership styles and policy positions of Kemi Badenoch and Robert Jenrick, shedding light on their contrasting approaches within the Conservative Party.
* <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c99v52x1dleo> - This report outlines the key differences between Kemi Badenoch and Robert Jenrick, including their stances on immigration and cultural issues, reflecting the internal dynamics of the Conservative Party.
* <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/10/17/robert-jenrick-kemi-badenoch-strengths-weaknesses-tory/> - This article discusses the strengths and weaknesses of Robert Jenrick and Kemi Badenoch, highlighting their policy positions and the internal party dynamics during the leadership contest.
* <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/10/28/jenrick-suggests-badenoch-could-turn-conservative-party-into-twitter-account-as-leader/> - This piece covers Robert Jenrick's comments suggesting that Kemi Badenoch's leadership style could transform the Conservative Party into a 'Twitter account,' indicating concerns about her approach to party leadership.
* <https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2049469/george-osborne-badenoch-jenrick> - Please view link - unable to able to access data