# Lee Anderson slams independent MP over dismissal of party’s electoral surge



Lee Anderson, a prominent figure within the party, has issued a stark rebuke of Oliver Ryan, the independent MP for Burnley, Padiham & Brierfield, in light of disparaging remarks regarding the recent electoral gains of Anderson's party. This exchange follows a remarkable round of elections where the party's triumphs have raised serious questions about the state of the existing political order.

During the recent elections, encompassing council, mayoral, and by-elections, Anderson’s party made headlines by achieving over 650 new council seats and securing the election of two mayors in England. Notably, Anderson highlighted the election of Cathy Mason, a former Labour councillor who jumped ship just three months prior, as evidence that the transformation of local politics is underway.

On social media platform X, Ryan cast doubt on the credibility of the party’s newly elected representatives, dismissing them as merely “very recent ex-Tories.” This remark provoked a swift and fiery response from Anderson, who took to the platform to showcase Mason's new affiliation, labeling Ryan’s assessment as utterly misguided. His reply, "Oh you are daft," encapsulated the indignation felt by many within the party who see a much broader story—a rejection of the traditional political failures that have plagued both major parties.

The results from May 1 signify a watershed moment for Anderson's party, now firmly establishing its foothold in Nottinghamshire after gaining control of the County Council with one of the largest majorities in years. With 40 councillors now on the council, exceeding the critical threshold for independent governance, this new political landscape signals a dramatic shift that could redefine local governance in the face of an increasingly out-of-touch Labour administration.

As these dynamics unfold, it becomes clear that former allegiances to Labour are increasingly irrelevant amidst the growing momentum for change. The recent victories highlight not just an electoral success, but a broader movement that seeks to challenge the status quo of UK politics, which many argue has failed to deliver for the people. The political tides are indeed shifting—though Ryan’s skepticism reflects an outdated perspective that refuses to acknowledge the substantial call for reform resonating among constituents.

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.andrewteale.me.uk/leap/results/2023/248/> - This source provides detailed results of the 2023 Burnley Borough Council election, confirming the Burnley and Padiham Independent Party's (BPIP) performance and the election of councillors in various wards, including Gannow, where BPIP secured a seat.
2. <https://www.bbc.com/news/election/2024/uk/constituencies/E14001142> - This article reports on the 2024 general election results for Burnley, highlighting the election of Oliver Ryan as the Labour MP, which aligns with the article's mention of Ryan's remarks on social media platform X.
3. <https://www.burnleyexpress.net/news/politics/council/lancashire-county-council-elections-results-in-full-3229198> - This source details the results of the 2025 Lancashire County Council elections, including the Burnley North East division, where an Independent candidate gained a seat from Labour, reflecting the article's mention of Anderson's party's electoral gains.
4. <https://www.chad.co.uk/news/people/first-councillor-to-quit-labour-and-join-reform-uk-is-from-ashfield-4987881> - This article reports on Cathy Mason's defection from Labour to Reform UK, providing context to the article's mention of Mason's election and her previous affiliation with Labour.
5. <https://westbridgfordwire.com/how-each-nottinghamshire-council-was-affected-by-the-local-election-results/> - This source discusses the impact of local election results on Nottinghamshire councils, including the Ashfield Independents' retention of control, which is relevant to the article's mention of Anderson's party's success in Nottinghamshire.
6. <https://www.lep.co.uk/news/politics/general-election-round-up-as-labour-gain-lancashire-seats-in-landslide-victory-4692032> - This article provides an overview of the 2024 general election results in Lancashire, including Labour's gains, which contextualizes the political environment surrounding the events described in the article.
7. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2050156/lee-anderson-tears-apart-labour-mp> - Please view link - unable to able to access data