# Conservatives lag behind Reform UK and Labour as internal dissent mounts under Kemi Badenoch



A recent poll conducted by More In Common unveils a troubling picture for the Conservative Party, now struggling to maintain relevance amid a resurgent opposition and shifting political landscape. With only a narrow edge over Nigel Farage's Reform UK party under the hypothetical leadership of former Prime Minister Boris Johnson, the current situation reflects a dire indictment of the Conservatives' direction.

Under the leadership of Kemi Badenoch, the Conservatives trail Reform UK by eight points, an alarming statistic that underscores widespread discontent within the party. As the Labour Party continues to assert its dominance, the Conservatives find themselves floundering, now even behind Labour by one point. Should Robert Jenrick take the helm, the Conservatives would still find themselves trailing Reform UK by seven points and Labour by two—an undeniable sign of oversight and mismanagement.

These poll results serve as a glaring reminder of Badenoch's waning authority. Despite her insistence on confidence in her position, whispers of discontent are growing louder within party ranks. Insiders have openly questioned her capability, with one remarking, "We cannot continue as we are, and she is just not up to the task." Such sentiments encapsulate the urgent need for a fundamental shift in strategy if the Conservatives hope to regain lost ground.

In contrast, Sir Iain Duncan Smith's dismissal of calls for yet another leadership election reflects an alarming disconnect from the reality facing the party. His assertion that the Conservatives should focus on consolidating strategy rather than instigating yet more leadership changes seems to ignore the very real crisis that is currently undermining public confidence. "If after four leadership elections and utter disarray amongst MPs over the last five years, another leadership election is what they believe the public voted for, then they are deluded," he remarked. This careless complacency is precisely what allows parties like Reform UK to capture the public's attention and trust.

Compounding these issues is the Conservatives' dismal performance in the May local elections, resulting in the loss of a staggering 674 councillors. This disarray not only weakens the party's standing but also emboldens their rivals, making the case for a revitalized approach more urgent than ever. The rise of figures like Boris Johnson, even without a parliamentary seat, signals a critical juncture for the Conservatives; they must confront this internal turmoil and external competition head-on if they are to avoid being further eclipsed by the ascendant forces that threaten their very foundation.

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uks-labour-has-17-point-lead-over-conservatives-first-poll-since-vote-date-set-2024-05-23/> - This Reuters article reports on a More in Common poll showing the Labour Party leading the Conservatives by 17 percentage points, highlighting the Conservatives' struggle to maintain relevance amid a resurgent opposition.
2. <https://www.ft.com/content/0bb4fa46-0bcb-4afe-a2a9-530bfe3a2be2> - This Financial Times article discusses the Conservative Party's significant defeats in recent mayoral contests, including London and the West Midlands, reflecting the party's declining performance under Rishi Sunak's leadership.
3. <https://www.ft.com/content/617888cf-878c-41fa-889f-e19704ffb5b2> - This Financial Times article reports that Kemi Badenoch has been given until May 2026 to improve the Conservative Party's performance in the polls, or face pressure to step down, indicating internal party concerns about her leadership.
4. <https://www.ft.com/content/0bb4fa46-0bcb-4afe-a2a9-530bfe3a2be2> - This Financial Times article highlights the Conservative Party's significant defeats in recent mayoral contests, including London and the West Midlands, reflecting the party's declining performance under Rishi Sunak's leadership.
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