

# 750k Scots can stop Sturgeon again

8 Dec 2019



Pro-UK Scots can stop Nicola Sturgeon's independence referendum by joining together and voting Scottish Conservative on Thursday, Jackson Carlaw says today (Sunday).

Mr Carlaw pointed to the impact achieved by the 750,000 Scots who voted Scottish Conservative in 2017.

Within 3 weeks, the First Minister was forced to put her indyref2 plans on ice.

Mr Carlaw said that these voters, together with new supporters gained over the campaign, could act on Thursday and put the SNP's referendum "in cold storage".

## **Scottish Conservative leader Jackson Carlaw said:**

"Two years ago, three-quarters of a million Scots gave their vote to the Scottish Conservatives to stop the SNP's divisive second independence referendum.

"By acting together, they won. They toppled nationalist MPs off their perch, and forced Nicola Sturgeon to put her indyref2 plans on ice.

"This week, we need those 750,000 people to come together once more and tell her again.

"As more pro-union voters join them in backing the Scottish Conservatives during this campaign, this time we can put that referendum in the cold storage for good.

"Pro-UK voters need to act as one. Jeremy Corbyn won't stop her, only the Scottish Conservatives will do so.

"Three-quarters of a million Scots stopped Sturgeon last time round – they can do so again this week."

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## Swinson must rule out joining SNP-

# Labour pact

7 Dec 2019



The Scottish Conservatives are today calling on Liberal Democrat leader Jo Swinson to categorically rule out offering her support for a SNP-Labour pact – which could lead to another independence referendum.

Scottish Conservative leader Jackson Carlaw said Ms Swinson needed to make clear that, in a straight choice, she would put the UK Union first, before a second EU vote.

The SNP has said it wants to enter into a pact with Labour after next week's election – with Nicola Sturgeon demanding a second independence referendum as the price of her support.

But there are key questions over how LibDem MPs would act if a Labour and the SNP agreed to implement two referendums next year.

After Scottish LibDem leader Willie Rennie said that stopping independence was the most important issue in Scotland, the Scottish Conservatives are now calling on the Liberal Democrats to make clear they would do whatever necessary to block a Labour government that kept an independence referendum on the table.

## **Campaigning in Moray and Stirling, Mr Carlaw said today:**

“I am calling on Jo Swinson to clarify her party's position before we go to the polls on Thursday.”

“We need to hear clearly from the Liberal Democrats that they will never prop up a Labour – SNP alliance that is preparing to offer up a second independence referendum.”

“This is a key point of principle for Jo Swinson. The suspicion is growing that she is so obsessed with revoking Article 50 or having a second EU vote that she would allow a second independence referendum as a price worth paying.”

“She must make it clear. Will she block any Labour-SNP arrangement that would leave a second independence referendum on the table – or not?”

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# Scotland's rapid decline in education standards revealed

5 Dec 2019



Scotland's alarming descent down world education league tables has been revealed.

Earlier this week the Pisa report – which evaluates education systems in countries across the world – exposed the SNP's dire performance in key areas.

Today at First Minister's Questions, Scottish Conservative leader Jackson Carlaw revealed the extent to which standards have slipped since the nationalists came to power compared with other OECD countries.

In science, performance dipped by 25 points, the second highest in the world, with only Finland performing worse.

And in maths, the demise in results since 2006 has only been eclipsed by Finland, Australia, New Zealand and South Korea.

However, instead of taking responsibility for the performance, Nicola Sturgeon denied there were problems in Scotland's schools system.

**Scottish Conservative leader Jackson Carlaw said:**

“These figures show disastrous drops in performance in key subjects like science and maths.

“Yet the SNP's response to this as almost been as alarming as the results themselves.

“Nicola Sturgeon admitted previously that performance wasn't good enough yet, now that things have got even worse, she's in complete denial about it.

“And all the while, our young people are deprived of the kind of education children in other countries are receiving.

“That will restrict their opportunities, and harm our economy in future.

“The SNP promised to have an 'unwavering focus' on improving standards in schools.

“But instead, Nicola Sturgeon's only unwavering performance has been on trying to force through another unwanted and divisive referendum.”

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27 Nov 2019



SNP Ochil and South Perthshire candidate John Nicolson has been branded a “laughing stock” after he told a hustings last night to vote for him in East Dunbartonshire.

Mr Nicolson, who puts ‘East Dunbartonshire’ as his address in his nomination papers, represented the constituency between 2015 and 2017.

He was then parachuted in to the Ochil and South Perthshire seat for this year’s election.

In a video of a hustings meeting in Alloa town hall last night Mr Nicolson is heard saying: “Only the Scottish National party can beat the Tories here in East Dunbartonshire”.

**Scottish Conservative MSP for mid-Scotland and Fife, Murdo Fraser said:**

“John Nicolson is now a laughing stock.”

“It’s well known he was parachuted in to Ochil and South Perthshire last month by Nicola Sturgeon. You’d think by now that he would have worked out where he was.”

“People have had enough of SNP placemen thinking they can walk in with a God-given right to a seat. In two weeks’ time, voters in Ochil and South Perthshire can tell Mr Nicolson to go home and think again – assuming he can find his way there.”

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# Scottish Conservative manifesto launch

26 Nov 2019



AN Oil and Gas sector deal to support the North-East economy is backed in today's Scottish Conservative manifesto.

Launched by Prime Minister Boris Johnson in Fife, the manifesto includes commitments to support and nurture Scotland's key industries – including a review of whisky duty, a guarantee on farm support, and a firm plan to become an independent coastal state to support Scotland's fishing sector.

The Oil and Gas Sector deal – which will help protect the more than 100,000 jobs in Scotland that rely on oil and gas – has been a key Scottish Conservative priority since last year.

The manifesto also sets out a clear and unambiguous commitment to oppose a second independence referendum.

It guarantees:

- More than £3.1 billion for Scottish public services as a result of the Barnett Consequentials from Conservative commitments in England.
- A review of alcohol duty to back Scottish whisky and gin producers.
- A clear commitment to leave the Common Fisheries Policy in December 2020 and to take back control of our fishing waters as an independent coastal state.
- Quadrupling the number of seasonal agricultural workers to 10,000 – a scheme campaigned for by Scottish Conservative MPs.
- Permanent tax mitigation from having to pay the Scottish rate of income tax for armed forces personnel based in or resident in Scotland.

**Introducing the Prime Minister at today's launch, Scottish Conservative leader Jackson Carlaw said:**

"This election is a chance to insist on change. To insist that for once Nicola Sturgeon listens. To insist on something better."

"We did it before remember: two years ago, 13 Scottish Conservative MPs were elected. Within days, the SNP's referendum plans beat a hasty retreat."

"This December, we get the chance to tell Nicola Sturgeon again. Tell her again: no to a second referendum. Tell her again: get on with the job we pay you to do. Tell her again: let's get Scotland moving."

**On the plans for a new oil and gas sector deal, Mr Carlaw added:**

"Jeremy Corbyn's disastrous Aberdeen tax puts 100,000 Scottish jobs in

danger. And incredibly, Nicola Sturgeon has still refused to rule out giving it her support.”

“The contrast with the Scottish Conservatives could not be greater.”

“We will oppose Labour’s Aberdeen tax. And we will introduce a new Oil and Gas Sector deal to support jobs in the north-east. There is still a great future for the North Sea and we must not let Corbyn kill it.”