## Sturgeon's Brexit intervention all about independence

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Nicola Sturgeon's latest intervention on Brexit is motivated solely by the break-up of Britain, the Scottish Conservatives have said.

Speaking in London today, the First Minister reiterated her desire for the June 2016 vote to leave the European Union to be ignored, or at least for the UK to remain in the single market and customs union.

She also claimed any concession made to Northern Ireland should apply to Scotland.

However, Scottish Conservative constitution spokesman Adam Tomkins said the SNP leader's only reason for intervening was to push the case for another referendum on Scottish independence.

He pointed out there was nothing new in today's speech, or indeed the accompanying paper being published by the SNP government.

Ms Sturgeon's speech came on the same day as a new campaign for Scottish independence was launched.

## Scottish Conservative constitution spokesman Adam Tomkins said:

"There was absolutely nothing new in this speech from Nicola Sturgeon.

"As ever, she is not intervening for the sake of a good Brexit deal, or for the good of the Northern Ireland border issue.

"She made this speech in the hope of drumming up the prospects for Scottish independence.

"From the second the Brexit vote became clear, that has been the SNP government's only motivation on this issue.

"If the SNP doesn't back a deal, it is automatically supporting a no-deal scenario — something the nationalists have admitted would be bad for Scotland.

"And, of course, they don't care if outcomes are bad for Scotland, so long as they're good for the prospects of another independence referendum.

"This was just the latest opportunistic contribution from Nicola Sturgeon, whose behaviour on the Brexit process has been selfish and utterly shameless."