

# Whoever becomes the new Conservative Leader must let the people decide our country's future, through an immediate General Election – Corbyn

**Jeremy Corbyn, Leader of the Labour Party**, responding to Theresa May's resignation announcement, said:

"The Prime Minister is right to have resigned. She has now accepted what the country has known for months: she cannot govern, and nor can her divided and disintegrating party.

"The burning injustices she promised to tackle three years ago are even starker today.

"The Conservative Party has utterly failed the country over Brexit and is unable to improve people's lives or deal with their most pressing needs.

"Parliament is deadlocked and the Conservatives offer no solutions to the other major challenges facing our country.

"The last thing the country needs is weeks of more Conservative infighting followed by yet another unelected Prime Minister.

"Whoever becomes the new Conservative Leader must let the people decide our country's future, through an immediate General Election."

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## [New Stagecoach legal action shows franchising system beyond reform – McDonald](#)

**Andy McDonald MP, Labour's Shadow Transport Secretary,** commenting on reports that Stagecoach, Virgin and SNCF are taking legal action against the Department for Transport over the West Coast franchise:

"Transport Secretary Chris Grayling's oversight of departmental procurement gets worse with each passing week.

"The news that four transport groups are now taking legal action against his department over its handling of two rail franchising processes shows that this system is beyond reform. It is failing on its own terms but Chris Grayling refuses to see it.

"Labour's plans to bring track and trains together under one public company will deliver the affordable fares and reliable rail services passengers desperately need and deserve."

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## [The Prime Minister's authority is shot and her time is up – Ian Lavery](#)

**Ian Lavery MP, Labour Party Chair,** commenting on Andrea Leadsom's resignation from the Cabinet, said:

"The Prime Minister's authority is shot and her time is up.

"While the Tories are ripping themselves apart, our country is in crisis. The government has made a catastrophic mess of the Brexit

negotiations, our steel industry is under threat and universal credit is pushing people into poverty.

“For the sake of the country, Theresa May needs to go, and we need an immediate general election.”

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## [Jeremy Corbyn speaking ahead of EU elections](#)

**Jeremy Corbyn MP, Leader of the Labour Party, speaking ahead of the EU elections today, said:**

“Today, the country has an opportunity to have a say on what kind of country we want Britain to be.

“A vote for Labour is a vote for a tolerant and fairer country, and an end to the division and austerity which has devastated our communities for a decade.

“The threat from the far-right is real. They serve only to sow division and offer no solutions. A vote for Labour today will challenge the far-right in Britain and across Europe.

“A vote for Labour is a vote to bring our divided country together, whether you supported Remain or Leave. We are the only party working for a sensible solution to break the Brexit deadlock and protect jobs, rights and living standards.

“We will continue to oppose the Tories’ bad deal or a disastrous No Deal. If we can’t get an agreement along the lines of our alternative plan, we will take it back to the people whether it’s through a public vote or general election.

“A vote for Labour is a vote for the only party that stands for the real change our country desperately needs, to benefit all communities, not just a privileged few.”

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## Treasury response to LCF scandal – John McDonnell comment

**John McDonnell MP, Labour’s Shadow Chancellor**, responding to the directions issued today about the FCA’s handling of the LCF scandal, said:

“The Government has not taken this seriously, and these directions from the Economic Secretary do not change that. The Government has not joined the dots of successive scandals. They have not seen that the root of multiple scandals is systemic regulatory failure, rather than one-off acts of misconduct or ‘bad apple’ individuals. The Chancellor needs to front up and review the entire regulatory architecture.

“The investigation into the approach of the FCA and ‘wider policy questions’ is encouraging, but a 12 month investigation is far too long to wait for people whose lives have been torn apart by the collapse of LCF, and are desperate for answers.

“The Government’s actions reflect a combination of incompetence and a blinkered ideology: their commitment to ‘new and innovative forms of finance’ has blinded them to the harms of inadequate regulation.

“A Labour Government would take a fundamentally different approach. We’ve commissioned work on overhauling the regulatory architecture. We will ensure that finance is a servant to, not master of, the public – and that our regulators bear this in mind at all times.”