# Labour Party and SNP Clash Over Brexit Policy in Election Debate



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Labour's deputy leader, Angela Rayner, affirmed that the Labour Party would "never" take the UK back into the European Union or the European single market if it wins the upcoming general election. The statement was made during an ITV election debate, where Rayner unequivocally answered "No" when asked if Labour would consider rejoining the EU or the single market.

Stephen Flynn, the SNP Westminster leader, criticized Rayner's stance, calling it "shameful," and reiterated that the SNP would seek to rejoin the EU and single market. Flynn blamed Brexit for economic woes, claiming it cost the UK £40 billion in tax receipts and accusing Labour of supporting damaging Brexit policies.

Conservative minister Penny Mordaunt echoed Rayner's stance, stating that her government would also not seek to rejoin the EU but suggested that Labour would indirectly return to EU alignment on various fronts without the benefits of full membership.

The debate underscored Brexit as a critical dividing line between Labour and the SNP, particularly in Scotland where polls suggest a close contest between the two parties, each forecast to win 27 seats according to an Ipsos Mori survey.

**Concerns Over Oxford United's Stadium Lease Agreement**

Concerns have been raised over alleged secrecy surrounding the lease option agreement between Oxfordshire County Council and Oxford United FC for a new stadium. On May 10, a lease agreement for land at The Triangle, Kidlington, was signed, with county councillor Ian Middleton expressing dissatisfaction over a lack of consultation with local representatives.

Middleton criticized the lack of transparency in the agreements, emphasizing the need for scrutiny by local residents and representatives. The council defended the process, citing commercial sensitivity and extensive public engagement prior to the agreement's approval on September 19, 2023.

**Steve Coogan Filming New Alan Partridge Series in Norwich**

Actor Steve Coogan has been seen filming his latest Alan Partridge series around Norwich this week. The series, "And Did Those Feet...," follows the character as he reintegrates into British life after a stint in Saudi Arabia.

Fans spotted Coogan at various locations, including Olive's Café and Yalm Foodhall, where he interacted with locals and enjoyed the city's offerings. The six-part documentary series will air on the BBC, exploring contemporary British life through Partridge's unique perspective.

**Pride Caerffili 2024: Details Announced**

Pride Caerffili is set to return for its second year on Saturday, June 15, 2024. The day-long event in Caerphilly Town Centre will feature a parade starting from St. Martin’s School, live entertainment, food, and informational stalls. The event aims to celebrate and recognize the contributions of LGBTQ+ individuals.

**Noisy Boiler Dispute Leads to Contempt of Court**

Duncan Mayes was sentenced to a community order and 150 hours of unpaid work for criminal damage and harassment after disruptive courtroom behavior led to his temporary detainment. The long-standing dispute over a noisy boiler installed by neighbors Mark and Wendy Fisher resulted in Mayes’ legal consequences and a restraining order.

**Gong Cha Opens First Norwich Store**

International bubble tea brand Gong Cha has opened its first branch in Norwich on Gentleman's Walk. The store will offer a 'buy one get one free' promotion this weekend as part of its opening celebrations. Gong Cha is known for its rigorous training to ensure authenticity and consistency across its global locations.