

CAVENDISH

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Weekly Monitoring
Friday 28th June



EIA Update

The EIA continues to prepare for new engagement for after the General Election using the recent SASIE and Economic Impact Reports to demonstrate the positive impact of the industry on the UK economy.

Political Update

With the General Election now less than a week away there have been no new policy pledges from major parties who have instead been focusing on spreading their messages.

This week has again been marked by the election betting scandal, the Conservative party remain the party most affected by the scandal, with two senior Tory officials, Tony Lee and Nick Mason, taking a leave of absence from the party during the investigation. Rishi Sunak officially withdrew support from Conservative candidates, Laura Saunders and Craig Williams, who are also both under investigation. The two candidates will now stand at the General Election as Independent candidates because it is too late to remove them from the ballot.

The Labour Party has now also been affected by the betting scandal, the Labour candidate for Central Suffolk and North Ipswich, Kevin Craig, was suspended from the party after he bet on a Conservative victory in his seat.

This was not the only scandal facing the Labour party this week as a Labour member was arrested in Islington this week in connection to the Westminster honeytrap scandal. The person has now been administratively suspended from the party. The member who is in their twenties was arrested on Wednesday and released on bail until September.

The last head to head debate took place this week with key topics being migration, tax, and the economy. A snap poll following the debate from [YouGov](#) showed a perfect tie -

50% vs 50% - on the question of who performed best, while [other polls](#) put Starmer a tiny bit ahead among viewers. Despite the close post debate poll Labour remain 20 points ahead of the Conservatives in most polls.

Daily Election Briefing:

Cavendish Consulting are currently providing a General Election round-up email at the end of everyday giving a snapshot of what has happened. If you are not yet signed up and would like to be please follow this [link](#) and scroll to the bottom to sign up.

News

Interministerial Group for Culture and Creative Industries

Following the first meeting of Culture and Creative Industries Interministerial Group on 2nd May, before the General Election was called, there was an agreement for the relevant ministers to work together. The meeting supported collaboration and engagement between the four UK Governments. An agreement was made to share best practice and learning to ensure the best outcome for the industry as a whole.

It was agreed that later in the year another meeting would be held with the Scottish Minister as Chair.

Business support for Labours plans to reform the Apprenticeship Levy

The Labour party have secured 57 signatures from business leaders to express their support for their proposed reforms to the 'growth and skills levy'. The supporters included the pub group Fullers, Merlin Entertainments, and UK Hospitality. The letter, published on Thursday, warns about the drop in the number of apprenticeships starts and billions of lost or unspent money under the current Levy.

Applicant and skills shortage in UK workforce

It has been reported that the skills shortage and labour shortage in the UK is stalling businesses growth opportunities. The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) and Open University have reported that 2/3rds of companies are struggling with a skills shortage. This comes after the ONS reported that the number of 16 to 24 year olds not in employment, education or training (NEETs) has reached 900,000 in the first three months of the year.

BCC has also reported that 68% of companies have increased the workload of the employees partly due to the skills gap and inability to recruit new employees.

IFS raise concerns about funding public services

Following analysis, the Institute for Fiscal Services (IFS) have raised concerns about how both the Conservatives and Labour party plan to fund public services. The lack of detail provided by both the manifestos on the total budgets that most public services will receive has resulted in the IFS being unable to evaluate if either parties costings are realistic.

EU leaders

Following negotiations on Thursday it has been agreed by European leaders that Germany's Ursula von der Leyen will remain for a second term as the European Commission president. Portugal's Antonio Costa and Estonia's Kaja Kallas will assume the most senior positions at the European Council and the EU's foreign policy service respectively.

Labour's Position on Brexit

During the British Chamber of Commerce (BCC) annual conference, Shadow Business Secretary Jonathan Reynolds assured everyone that Labour "will and can do better" with the EU and promised to improve the UK-EU relations. This came after BCC chief Shevan Haviland urged politicians to "stop walking on eggshells and start saying it how it is" when talking about Brexit.

Government and Parliament

Government and Parliament have been dissolved ahead of the upcoming General Election on Thursday 4th July.

For any queries regarding this round-up
please get in touch today.

Get in touch



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