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Weekly Monitoring
Friday 7th June



EIA Update

The EIA continues to prepare for a new Government and Parliament proactively following the election 4th July to ensure that political players are aware of the importance of the events industry.

Political Update

With the General Election now less than a month away, the election campaign is in full swing.

The week started with the announcement that Nigel Farage would indeed stand at this General Election for Reform UK, choosing to contest the former UKIP stronghold seat of Clacton-on-Sea.

On Tuesday the first TV debate was held between Rishi Sunak and Keir Starmer. Although initially it seemed like Sunak had been able to get his message out more effectively (Labour costing the average household £2000 in taxes) his figure was brought into disrepute by Labour accusing him of lying whilst Treasury civil servants have made considerable efforts to distance themselves from the figure.

Today will see the first debate of all seven major political parties, with the line up being the below:

- Conservative Party Penny Mordaunt
- Labour Party: Angela Rayner
- Scottish National Party: Stephen Flynn
- Liberal Democrats: Daisy Cooper

- Green Party: Carla Denyer
- Reform Party: Nigel Farage
- Plaid Cymru: Rhun ap Iorwert

A few unsettling polls were released for the Conservatives on Thursday which suggested that Reform UK were gaining on them dramatically with some putting Reform 2 points behind the Tories.

In other bad news for Sunak his early departure from the D-Day commemoration allowed Starmer to pose for photos with the other world leaders and led to criticism from his own party as well as Labour and Lib Dems.

Separately, the First Minister of Wales, Vaughan Gething, lost a vote of no confidence. Two Labour colleagues were said to be too ill to take part - both had recently fallen out with Mr Gething. Their absences led to him losing the vote 29 to 27. Despite him losing the vote, Gething has insisted he will not resign and "carry on" as First Minister.

News

Martyn's Law is promised by Rishi Sunak

During a campaign trip to Bury in North West England, a marginal Conservative seat, Sunak was asked why he had ignored the recommendation to implement the Martyn's Law. Sunak responded saying that they still backed the Law and that the Law will still be introduced before summer recess.

Apprenticeships to be become more flexible under Labour

Labour has pledged that they will allow businesses to spend up to 50% of cash provided by the Government, previously earmarked for apprenticeships, to either fund apprenticeships or train existing staff.

There would also be an option for employers to offer "pre-apprenticeship training" which would prepare people for full time apprenticeships or jobs. 50% of the funding would still need to be retained for apprenticeships.

There are some conditions attached to the upskilling of existing staff, courses would need to be from a pre-approved lists of essential skills and could not be used on internal training.

Traineeships under Labour

As part of Labour's plans to improve skills across the UK, they have suggested reintroducing traineeships. Traineeships act as a skills development programme, where you complete an unpaid work placement alongside a training course.

These previously ran from 2013 - 2023. Under Labour 3% of the Apprenticeships Levy would fund 150,000 traineeships.

UK/EU relations under a Labour Government

Ahead of the General Election on the 4th July, commentators have been speculating on how a potential Labour Government might impact UK/EU relations.

On the one hand, Starmer has ruled out re-joining the single market or the EU if elected to Government. Starmer has also ruled out opening negotiations with the EU to discuss youth mobility, this could have potentially seen the introduction of an easy-access visa issued to 18- to 30-year-olds.

However, it has been reported that EU officials see [potential for a better relationship](#) with the UK under a Starmer Government and Labour's policy on the EU would see Britain align with EU rules, particularly around trade in food and agriculture products.

European Elections

Elections are taking place throughout the European Union, with voters taking to the polls in each of the 27 Member States. With 720 seats up for grabs, elections will run until the 9th June.

The latest European-wide polls predict that the centre-right European People's Party (EPP) will win the most votes with 170 to 180 seats, followed by the centre-left Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats (S&D) with 135 to 145 seats, and the centrist Renew Europe group with 75 to 85 seats. The Greens are losing ground and should only gain 40 to 50 seats..

This could result in pauses for climate and sustainability laws and economic or social legislation, it could also impact future relations with the UK and how open Brussels is to new discussions.

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
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Get in touch



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