

Battleground marginal constituencies

David Cameron's Conservatives must win no fewer than 117 seats in order to secure the 326 needed for an overall majority – a 6.9% swing in the national vote and the biggest Tory swing since World War II

● Labour
 ● Conservative
 ● Liberal Democrat
 ● Scottish National
 ● Plaid Cymru

Map shows distribution of seats at 2005 general election

Tory targets (swing needed)

1 Sefton Central 6.65%
Tory success would indicate likely overall majority

2 Thurrock 6.6%

3 Tooting 6.1%

Labour's transport minister, **Sadiq Khan**, (right) faces close race if Conservatives perform well. In 2005 Tories achieved 7.4% swing from Labour

4 Waveney 6.0%

5 Stevenage 4.03%

Tories become largest party in **hung parliament**

6 Bedford 4.1%

7 Hendon 3.75%

Bellwether seats

8 Luton South 7.35%

Won by party that forms new government in every election since 1951

9 E. Renfrewshire 7.0%

Tory battle to win Scots' minds with bid to unseat **Jim Murphy**, Secretary of State for Scotland

10 Elmet & Rothwell 5.7%

Tory win would see party reclaiming parts of North

11 Rossendale 4.25%

Labour hold 3,676 majority

12 Richmond 3.6%

Expect closest run race since 1997 with Lib Dem **Susan Kramer** fighting high-profile Tory **Zac Goldsmith**

13 Stafford 1.95%

Home of **Motorway Man** – floating voters who live in modern homes close to motorway networks comprise about 15% of electorate. Stafford is bellwether for 21 marginals around M61, M6 and M1 that could shift from Labour to Conservatives

14 Dorset South 1.85%

Very close race. Incumbent employment minister **Jim Knight** (below) is likely to lose his 1,812 majority to Conservative candidate **Richard Grosvenor Plunkett-Ernlé-Drax** – campaigning as **Richard Drax**

Labour targets

15 Norwich North 8.4%

Former Labour stronghold – lost in by-election to Tory **Chloe Smith** (left) after incumbent **Ian Gibson** was barred following MPs' expenses scandal

16 Crewe & Nantwich 8.4%

Previously safe Labour seat lost to Conservative **Edward Timpson** in 2008 by-election shock

Liberal Democrat targets

17 Sheffield Central 8.0%

18 Burnley 7.4%

19 Oldham 5.0%

20 Eastbourne 0.8%

21 Edinburgh South 0.45%