

Britain's Tory leadership contest

■ **Jul 20:** Party's 357 MPs chose their final two candidates for leader



■ **Jul 25:** First head-to-head TV debate

■ **Jul 28-Aug 31:** Twelve regional hustings take place



■ **Aug 5:** Tory Party members receive postal ballots

■ **Sep 2:** Ballot shuts

■ **Sep 5:** Winner announced – becomes prime minister



Liz Truss, 46: *Foreign Secretary*

■ **ECONOMY:** To hold emergency budget to ease cost of living crisis. Claims **£30 billion-plus** tax cuts will boost economy. Will reverse **1.25%** national insurance hike and **6%** increase in corporation tax

■ **BREXIT:** Admits she was “wrong” to back Remain in 2016 referendum. Architect of **Northern Ireland Protocol Bill** that critics claim breaks international law. Unlikely to thaw EU relations

■ **DEFENCE:** Defence spending to be **3%** of GDP by 2030 – above **2%** NATO target. Has consistently voted for use of UK military forces in combat operations overseas

■ **IMMIGRATION:** Will expand Rwanda deportation policy for asylum seekers to other countries



Rishi Sunak, 42: *Former Chancellor*

■ **ECONOMY:** Denounces “fairytale” economics, pledges tax cuts only when inflation is under control. Interest payments on **£2.4 trillion** debt mountain predicted to hit **£87 billion** this year

■ **BREXIT:** Will continue with UK legislation to override Northern Ireland protocol, but expected to push for settlement with EU. Some 2,400 EU laws on UK statute book to be scrapped or reformed

■ **DEFENCE:** Has given more than **£2.3 billion** to help Ukraine in its war against Russia. Has consistently voted for use of military forces in combat operations overseas

■ **IMMIGRATION:** Supports controversial Rwanda deportation policy for asylum seekers