

Contenders to replace UK's Truss

Conservative MPs have started to call for Prime Minister Liz Truss to step down after her package of unfunded tax cuts triggered a market sell-off and hammered her party in opinion polls



1 Jeremy Hunt: Fifth chancellor in just three years after PM Truss sacked predecessor **Kwasi Kwarteng**.

Has previously served as foreign secretary, health secretary and culture secretary



2 Rishi Sunak: Former chancellor accused his rival Truss in Tory leadership contest of "fairytale economics."

Warned that Truss's unfunded tax-cutting plans would send economy into freefall



3 Penny Mordaunt: Leader of Commons and former defence secretary finished in third place in leadership race before she backed Truss



4 Ben Wallace: Seen by worried MPs as Cabinet's only competent minister. Defence secretary did not take part in leadership race

5 Boris Johnson: In his farewell address as prime minister, Johnson fuelled speculation about future return to frontline politics

Labour party lead over Conservatives (polling averages to October 15)

Labour

50.0%

Conservatives

24.6%

10.2%

Liberal Democrats

Labour are 25.4% ahead of Tories