

Conservative Party UK

Boris Johnson insists he will not ^{经历}undergo 'psychological transformation'

^{挑衅的}Defiant prime minister ^{不理睬}brushes off ^{补选}by-election defeats and vows to tackle cost of living crisis and war in Ukraine



Boris Johnson arrives for the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Kigali, Rwanda © Getty Images

Jim Pickard in Kigali 4 HOURS AGO

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Boris Johnson ^{发出}struck a defiant note after his Conservative party suffered two major by-election defeats this week, saying that he would not undergo a "psychological transformation".

The UK prime minister, speaking from a ^{英联邦首脑会议}Commonwealth summit in Rwanda, told the BBC Radio 4 Today programme on Saturday morning that he would instead concentrate on issues such as the cost of living and the war in Ukraine.

Oliver Dowden, ^{前保守党主席}the former Tory party chair, resigned within minutes of [the results](#) of Wakefield in West Yorkshire and Tiverton in Devon on Friday, publishing a letter that implicitly criticised Johnson's leadership.

Asked if he would change in the wake of that resignation, Johnson said: "If you're

saying you want me to undergo some sort of psychological transformation, I think that our listeners would know that is not going to happen.”

He added that every government is “**buffeted**” by disappointing by-election results in the middle of a **parliament**. **受到冲击** **议会**

The loss of Tiverton to the Liberal Democrats — after holding a majority of 24,239 — has left many **Tory MPs** believing they are at risk of losing their seats. **保守党议员**

Wakefield’s shift to Labour also puts the “Red Wall” of former Labour seats Johnson **seized** in the 2019 election under threat. **夺取**

The prime minister suggested the government could carry out a further fuel duty cut if petrol prices remain high, and said that the **contentious** policy of sending **asylum** seekers to Rwanda would eventually work. **有争议的** **庇护**

The Johnson **premiership** has been buffeted by “**partygate**”, when workplace gatherings that broke Covid lockdown rules led to more than 100 fines, and by the cost of living crisis. On Friday **senior figures** including Michael Howard, a former Tory party leader, called for him to quit. **首相职位** **派对门** **高层人物**

Johnson survived a vote of confidence earlier this month, even though 148 MPs voted to remove him. Downing Street is braced for rebel Tory MPs to make a concerted effort to change Conservative party rules which prevent a second challenge within 12 months.

The executive of the 1922 backbench committee, which sets the rules, will shortly hold elections for key posts. Some rebels, including backbencher Andrew Bridgen, are planning to stand **in a bid to** change the 12-month rule, but the current leadership is not keen. **力图**

“Changing the rules at half time, because you are 1-0 down can’t be fair,” said one MP on the committee.