



# Daily

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024



dailymail.co.uk

# Mail

£1.10 85p to subscribers

# Now is the moment for Britain to choose its future



Soaking wet Tory: Rishi Sunak outside No 10 yesterday

By **Jason Groves**  
Political Editor

**RISHI** Sunak last night declared it was time for Britain to 'choose its future', as he called a snap General Election for July 4.

The Prime Minister stunned Westminster by gambling on going to the country this summer – despite languishing 20 points behind Labour in the opinion polls.

Speaking in the pouring rain in Downing Street, Mr Sunak vowed to 'fight for every vote' – and promised to take the fight to Labour, saying the Opposition was taking an election win 'for granted'.

At an emergency Cabinet meeting last night, Michael Gove backed the gamble, telling the PM: 'Who dares wins. You dared and you will win.'

But the decision sparked jitters on

**Amid Tory jitters over his shock timing – and an oh-so British rain-soaked speech – Rishi seizes the initiative and says voters must decide between two VERY different visions**

the Tory benches, with some fearing it could lead to electoral wipeout.

One senior Tory branded the move 'suicidal', while Cabinet Office minister Esther McVey urged Mr Sunak to

wait until the autumn to allow more time for the benefits of rising real wages to filter through.

Tory grandee Sir David Davis said he was 'surprised' by the timing, but



added that it might yet prove to be a 'smart gamble'. A source close to the PM acknowledged there was 'no perfect time' to go to the polls. But he

**Turn to Page 2**

## Sarah Vine, Andrew Neil, Littlejohn