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RISHI PLOTTERS 'GIVE UP AND GO TO THE PUB'

Tories take a drubbing in local elections. But (at last!) rebel MPs tell Mail they're calling time on their bids to topple PM

By **Jason Groves, Martin Beckford and Kumail Jaffer**

THE Tory plot to oust Rishi Sunak fizzled out yesterday, despite 'disappointing' local election results that leave Labour on course for power.

Disaffected Tories had planned to use the elections as a springboard for a coup against the Prime Minister.

But despite results that left the Conservatives on track to lose half the seats they contested, rebels admitted they had not persuaded enough MPs to join them to force a vote of no confidence in Mr Sunak's leadership.

One rebel said simply: 'We're off to the pub.'

Dame Andrea Jenkyns, the first Tory MP to publicly move against the PM, said it was 'unlikely' that others would follow in sufficient numbers to trigger a leadership contest.

'My stance is the same,' she said. 'But we are

**The picture
that proves
laughter is
the best
medicine**



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Guffawing at the gee-gees: The King in high spirits at the Royal Windsor Horse Show yesterday

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