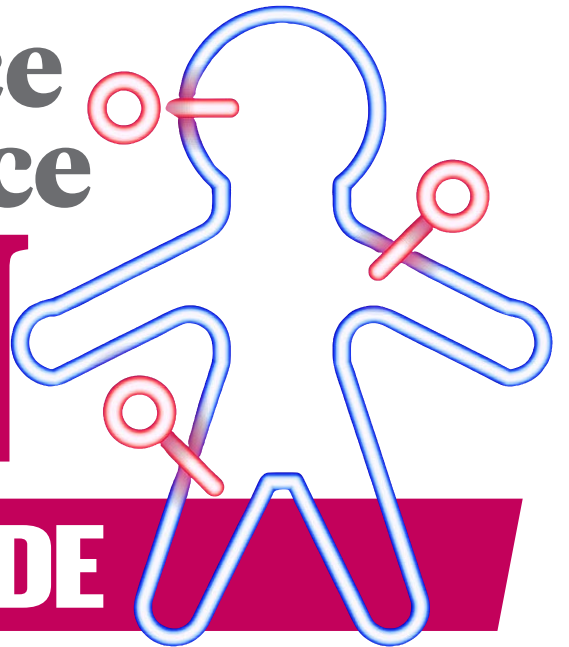




How to **BEAT PAIN**

Latest science
& expert advice

ESSENTIAL PULLOUT GUIDE INSIDE



**Davina out
of surgery
after brain
tumour op**

SEE PAGE 3

Thought police in Starmer's Britain 'like Soviet Union', warns Boris

**Ex-PM attacks rise of social media 'hate'
probes as a grave threat to free speech**

BORIS Johnson has attacked the growing scourge of 'thought police' in Sir Keir Starmer's Britain, comparing it to 'the Soviet Union at its worst'.

Writing in today's Daily Mail, the former prime minister says investigations by police into

EXCLUSIVE

By **Kumail Jaffer**
Political Correspondent

comments on social media come 'straight out of 1980s Romania, and the horrible curtain-twitching culture by which people reported on their friends – even their family members'.

It comes amid an increasing backlash over 'non-crime hate

incidents', where already over-stretched officers probe comments and actions not considered serious enough to constitute an offence.

The issue was thrust into the spotlight this week when two Essex police officers visited newspaper columnist Allison Pearson following a complaint about a social media post from a year ago, which has since been deleted. Ms Pearson says she has not been

Turn to Page 4