

Labour, the SNP, and tosh

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As the [Guardian noted yesterday](#):

At the post-PMQs lobby briefing Rishi Sunak's press secretary refused to rule out a post-election pact with DUP, or any other party. In a press release drafted as an audacious parody, Labour is now attacking Sunak for refusing to rule out a deal with the SNP.

As a consequence, and as they also note, **Ian Murray**, the shadow Scottish secretary, said:

Rishi Sunak's refusal to rule out a grubby deal with the SNP is a sign of his desperation to cling to power. A repeat of the Tory-Nat coalition previously seen in Scotland would wreck the UK, putting the very foundations of our country at risk.

Under Keir Starmer and Anas Sarwar's leadership, Labour has said repeatedly we wouldn't do any deal with those who want to break up our country. The Tories must now urgently follow Labour's example.

As the Guardian itself then notes:

In one respect, this is pure tosh. As Alex Salmond might have put it, rocks will probably melt in the sun before the SNP forms a coalition with the Tories.

So why did Labour do it? Because in 2015 the Tory suggestion that Labour would form a coalition with the SNP was thought to be significant in helping the Tories win.

Labour does of course know there is no chance at all of a Tory / SNP alliance: the loathing between the two is clear every time an SNP member speaks in the Commons. But they thought it was a good joke to say it.

I admit I don't think it that funny. Denying people in Scotland their democratic right to decide on their future is just another in the string of democratic failures that Labour

appears to be determined to put together as evidence that they are intent in ruling in opposition to the will of the people of this country and the four nations within it.