

Funding the Future

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As the [Guardian notes](#) this morning:

The Conservatives are braced for painful byelection results in a vote on Thursday that could become a damning verdict on Rishi Sunak's ability to win a broad enough coalition of voters at the next election to retain his party's majority.

The party could lose all three of the constituencies that are up for grabs – which each have significantly different demographics that the Tories would need to win – with the prospect of hanging on to just one being touted by senior ministers as a victory.

Three by-elections of this sort on a day is, of course, unusual. The seats are not naturally those the opposition parties would expect to win, and there is some uncertainty as to the outcomes. So, a poll. What outcome would you prefer today?

[poll id="72"]

My instinct is that I would like the Tories to lose all three seats so that the message is clearly delivered that this government is over. But just as much, I would prefer that Labour did not win all three seats. Any suggestion that they have the next election in the bag would be bad news. You, however, may disagree, and anyway I think that unlikely: I suspect the Tories will keep Uxbridge. But I could, of course, be wrong.