



## A MESSAGE FROM INTERIM LEADER STEVE CROWTHER



When Theresa May triggered the snap election on 18<sup>th</sup> April, she didn't just intend to stamp on Jeremy Corbyn. She intended to stamp out UKIP.

Indeed, we knew that many committed Brexiteers would vote Tory in a bid to give her the strongest possible mandate with which to negotiate the full Brexit they voted for last year.

Those same people are now absolutely furious. The phones at Lexdram House were ringing off the hook yesterday. Theresa May has conned many people out of their vote, and then wasted it. As one UKIP supporter said brilliantly on the BBC: "We passed her the ball in the penalty area, and she lobbed it over the bar".

At the same time, I found while canvassing this week that people in even the sleepest country towns are absolutely incensed about the internal jihadi threat, evidenced by the squalid crimes in London and Manchester. They want something done about it, and see the Tories and Labour as equally useless in knowing what that should be.

That means we have a HUGE opportunity right now. Far from consigning UKIP to oblivion, the incompetent May has given us a massive shot of adrenalin.

The first thing I intend to do at Monday's NEC is launch a recruitment drive.

People often say to us "we never see politicians except when they want our votes". We will go back to them over the next two months and ask not for their votes, but their support. I predict it will be a shot in the arm for every branch.

We will be preparing a leaflet addressing the key issues, and the Alan Bown has already financed half a million copies. I hope you will help get some out to the public in your area, and kick-start the Great UKIP Revival.

Thanks – I know you're footsore and tired, but this could prove very worthwhile indeed.

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### **A note of thanks**

As well as the hundreds of candidates and thousands of members and supporters who bravely fought the 'forlorn hope' election(s) over the past two months, I would like to thank the small and overworked central party team who have kept the party going this year.

Paul Oakden has been an outstanding Chairman, and I would not have agreed to stand in as interim leader without his energy and enthusiasm behind me.

His team in London and Newton Abbot are the beating heart of UKIP, some of them unpaid volunteers, all of them passionate about keeping our flame burning. Along with Alan Bown, Christopher Mills and the small group of exceptionally generous and dedicated donors who keep us afloat, they have ensured that we are still here, still fighting, and poised to reap the benefit of Mrs May's failures.

Kind regards



**Steve Crowther**

**Interim Leader, UKIP**

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