

Voters furious at heartless Tory plans to raid pensions and hike taxes after the election

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Angry voters have rejected [Theresa May](#)'s heartless plan to hike taxes and raid pensions after the election.

A new poll shows nearly a third of people are less likely to support the Tories following Mrs May's refusal to rule out tax rises or back the triple-lock on pensions.

The resounding thumbs-down for the Prime Minister came as she dodged the press, public and awkward questions yesterday by doing a disappearing act.

Scrapping the pensions guarantee could see Britain return to the dark days when payments to the elderly sometimes rose by just a few pence each year.

Countless Tory Chancellors from Geoffrey Howe to [George Osborne](#) have been quick to clobber hard-pressed families with hikes in VAT after election victories.

"A Tory election win would come with a huge price tag," Labour's campaign chairman Andrew Gwynne told the Mirror.

"The people picking up the bill won't be the well off – it'll be pensioners and those working hard to make ends meet, with the threat of lower pensions and higher taxes. Britain can't afford the Tories."

On Saturday the Mirror told how Mrs May had [failed to rule out scrapping the triple-lock](#), which ensures pensions rise by a decent amount each year, while Chancellor Philip Hammond hinted at higher VAT and other taxes.

In contrast Labour said it would keep the pensions protection and warned of a "Tory tax bombshell".

Yesterday a Survation poll showed both Mrs May's policies are deeply unpopular and could turn voters off supporting the Tories on June 8.

The survey found 28% of people are less likely to vote Tory because of the attack on pensions, compared to just 17% who are more likely to do so. And 27% of voters are less likely to vote Tory because of the looming tax rises, compared with 16% who are more likely to do so.

There was no sign of Mrs May or Chancellor Hammond on the campaign trail yesterday as pressure mounted over the Tories to change course.

The PM has done just one press event and no proper TV interviews since announcing the election last Tuesday. In her absence, Ministers Mr Green and Sir Patrick were trundled out for media grillings.

But they failed to rule out scrapping the triple lock, which guarantees pensions rise every year in line with earnings, prices or 2.5% – whichever is the highest.

Sir Patrick later revealed his deep irritation with Chancellor Hammond for letting the cat out of the bag about his plan for tax increases.

Mr Farron accused Theresa May of "misrepresenting the will of the people" and said he could not support [Jeremy Corbyn](#) because he told Labour MPs to back Article 50.