

BM Political Highlights

Week Beginning 10/06/19

Top 3 Political Stories This Week

- Labour will attempt to pass [cross-party legislation](#), to try to take control of the Brexit process
- Pres Trump threatens more Chinese tariffs if Pres Xi decides to [boycott the upcoming G20 summit](#)
- Negotiations over an [EPP-Social Democrat-Green alliance](#) got underway this week, with Chlr Merkel hopeful she can broker a deal which will deliver Manfred Weber the presidency

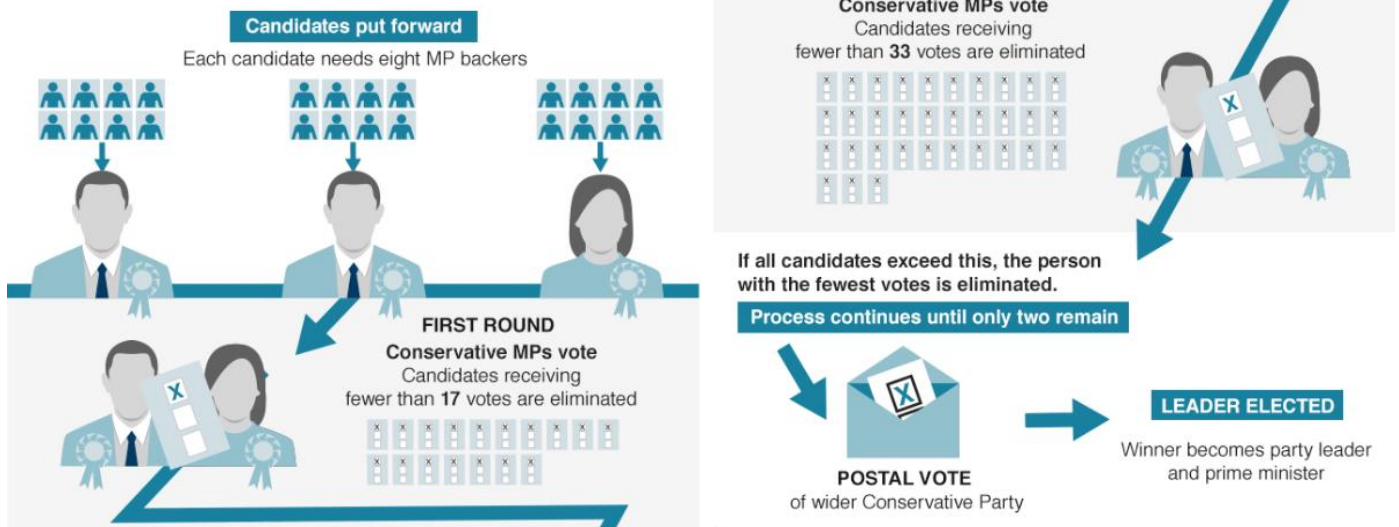
BlondeMoney View

- This was the week that the claws came out in the race to be the next PM: [Gove attacked Johnson](#) over his planned tax cuts for high earners, [Harper attacked Hunt](#) over his role in the failure of Brexit so far, and [Leadsom attacked Raab](#) over his claim that he isn't a feminist. Sam Gyimah, [the third casualty of the race](#), may well be glad that he got out when he did. However, Labour appeared keen to prove that they too were capable of party in-fighting. At a meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party, Jeremy Corbyn received criticism from his colleagues over his leadership (or lack thereof) on both [Anti-Semitism and Brexit](#). It wasn't all bad news for Labour though, as [they narrowly saw off the Brexit Party](#) in Peterborough to retain control of that seat. They will hope to harness this momentum by using their opposition day debate today to try to [take control of Brexit](#). Their gambit also attempts to wreak merry mayhem on the Conservative leadership process by gaining the signature of Conservative Oliver Letwin. He explicitly backs Michael Gove for leader and all eyes will be on how many similar rebels will support the opposition's vote today. Too many could dent the chances for a Prime Ministerial hopeful.
- Pres Trump saw his [trade-war pay off](#) in the nick of time this week, as he won concessions from Mexico over immigration policy in order prevent further tariffs from coming into effect. This after rumours of a [potential rebellion](#) by Republican lawmakers, which would have been enough to prevent the President from instituting the tariffs. However, talk of mutiny wasn't enough to dissuade the President from using his favourite diplomatic weapon, as he threatened further Chinese tariffs if Pres Xi boycotts [the upcoming G20 Summit](#). Trump isn't the only one struggling to keep his party in line, with Nancy Pelosi facing ever-intensifying pressure from her fellow Democrats to begin impeachment proceedings. Even the chairman of the House Judiciary committee, a traditional ally of Pelosi's, is becoming [increasingly frustrated](#) with the Speaker's slow and steady approach. Although Pelosi has been able to keep the dogs at bay thus far, the battle is far from over.
- Angela Merkel's crucial coalition partners appointed [three joint interim leaders](#) this week, somewhat stabilising the domestic situation for the Chancellor. On the continent, Merkel called for a [comparable minimum wage](#) across Europe, as she looks to build support for the EPP's Weber in the race for the Commission Presidency. Elsewhere, Pres Macron may not be afforded [the role of kingmaker](#) as he had initially hoped. Reports suggest that the EPP will look to the Social Democrats and the Greens in order to form a winning coalition, overlooking Macron's liberal-progressive group. This was not the end of the bad news for ALDE, as a report in Belgium suggested that MEPs may be [plotting against current leader](#) Guy Verhofstadt, in a bid to overhaul the party.

Chart of the Week

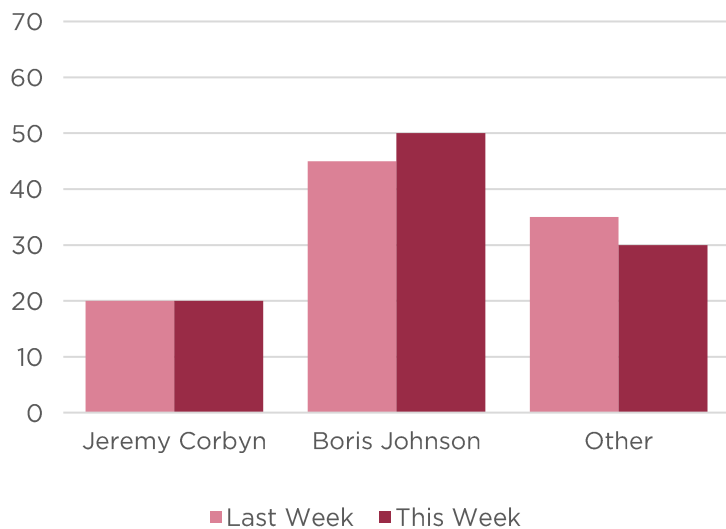
Source: [BBC](#)

How is a new Conservative leader elected?

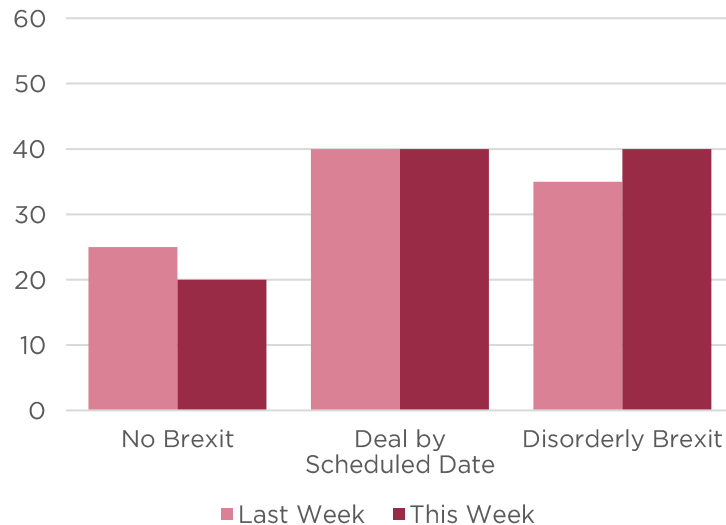


BlondeMoney Probabilities:

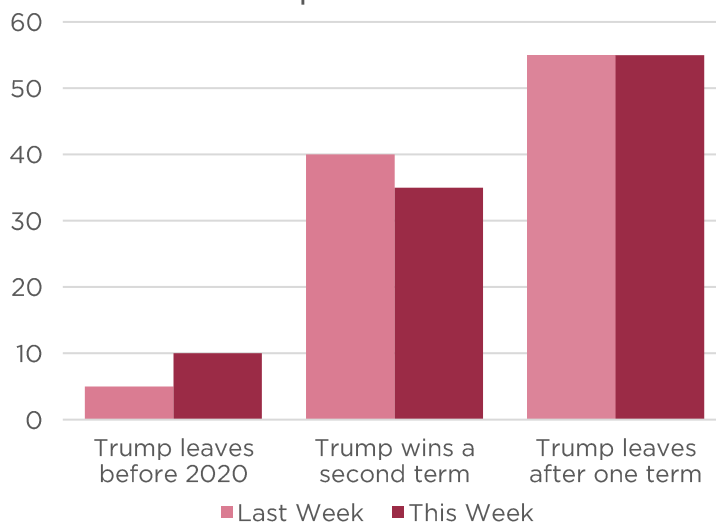
UK PM in Jan 2020



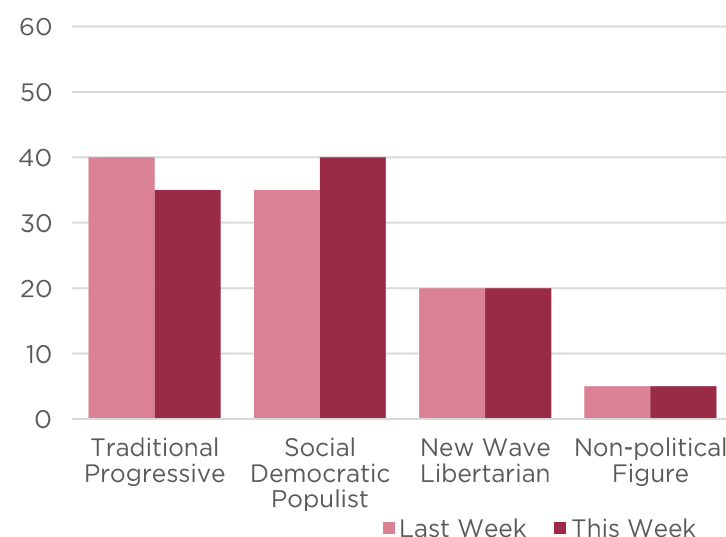
Brexit Outcome



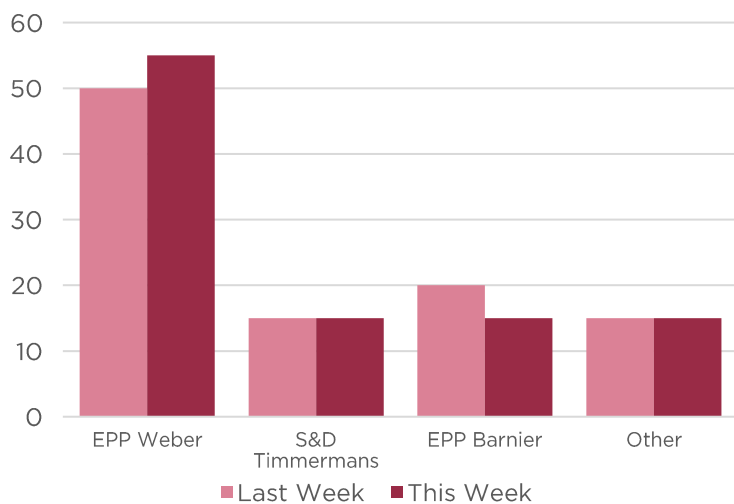
Trump Re-election



Democrat 2020 Nominee



Next EU Commission President



- UK PM Jan 2020: Initial BM analysis indicates Johnson should have more than enough support to make it onto the member's ballot. Polling shows he also has a sizeable lead among the membership.
- Brexit: The People's Vote campaign took a hit this week, as Sam Gyimah was knocked out of the race to become the next PM.
- Trump: Speaker Pelosi is coming under increasing pressure from within her own party to begin impeachment proceedings against Pres Trump. The Democratic mood both in the congress and on the campaign-trail grows more and more frustrated as Pelosi's inaction continues.
- Democrat Nominee: Joe Biden's campaign suffered another set-back this week. After pressure from his Democratic rivals, he was forced to flip-flop on his support for the controversial Hyde Amendment.
- EU Commission Pres: Reports suggest that progress has been made in the potential formation of an EPP-Social Democrat-Green alliance, which would give Weber more than enough seats to take the Presidency. Nevertheless, ALDE are still hopeful that they can muscle their way into any future deal.