## **Second Audio Recording of the 19 March Meeting**

- 1 J Pesutto We've had quite a long discussion where we fleshed through everything. The long and short of it, Moira, is [00.30] as a group we don't think a statement will work. The 2 damage is deep and a statement won't get us there. And what I'm going to do is ask the Party 3 4 Room to support a motion to remove you from the Parliamentary Party. I'm sorry it's come to this, and it's not done personally. I have to put the team first and nothing I think about gets past, 5 6 gets me past the concern I have that the damage [01.00] to the team and our prospects is too severe. The Party Room will decide, but I'll put it to them that in the circumstances for the 7 reasons we've gone through today, that's what I'm going to do. If you wanted to, you could 8 resign in the meantime but that's a matter for you, I can't force anything on that front. It would 9 10 save everyone a whole lot of, you know, the energy that goes into these things but, Moira, I'm going to proceed on that basis. If you do want to resign, [01.30] let me know, but I propose to 11 12 advise the Party Room immediately. I won't have a formal motion done, but I will get that out 13 as soon as I possibly can. Again, I'm very sorry it's come to this. But I just don't feel I have a choice. And again, at the risk of repeating myself, it's not personal, I'm putting the team first 14 and I just feel I need to do that. I'm sorry we kept you waiting so long but we did have - we 15 did exhaust every possible angle of the issues, [02.00] we don't do this with any joy at all, but 16 it's necessary in my view to bring it before the Party Room. In terms of process, when a motion 17 is circulated, it would come from me. I need to move it, I need to give 5 days' notice, so that 18 would – if I can get a notice out tomorrow it would be the business day that, the 5 days 19 excluding any business days [02.30]. So, I imagine that would be on the Monday or Tuesday 20 but there would be 5 days there and then my understanding of the process is that you'll be given 21 a chance to address the Party Room I think is what happens. I wasn't there when Bernie went 22 through the same thing, but I stress that the reasons for it relate to the matters concerning links 23 of people to self-confessed and self-professed Nazis which we just cannot take that on as a 24 party. [03.00] We are committed to winning in 2026 and this stuff will ensure that we don't win 25 26 and I'm already being attacked again on social media but this time by ministers of the government who are already gunning for me this week. It's not going anywhere. So, Moira, 27 I'm sorry it's come to this but that's where I've landed. 28
- 29 **M Deeming** OK, thank you.
- Thanks for coming in. [03.30]

END [3.40]