

# Behind the Headlines

## Annotated Front Page

### ▼ Skyline

This panel helps to market the paper by tempting readers inside. It usually tells readers about stories in other parts of the paper.

### ▼ Date and Price

Costs of the paper are covered by a combination of the cover price and advertising.

How far some people will go to maintain their 'streak'

### ► Masthead

A specially designed logo showing the name of the newspaper.

'The poster-boy for it sleaze' Meet the Dar

Monday  
9 September 2024  
£3.00  
From £2.30 for subscribers

# The Guardian

News provider of the year

# Scores of MPs could refuse to back Starmer over cut in fuel payments

PM urges backbenchers to support measure as accepts it's 'unpopular'

### ▲ Headline

The biggest headline on the page is called the "main splash". This is a serious story so no jokes are made in the headline. Headlines are written by subeditors.

**Peter Walker**  
Senior political correspondent

Up to 50 Labour MPs could refuse to back controversial plans to cut the winter fuel allowance for 10 million pensioners despite Keir Starmer urging backbenchers to get behind

MPs are expected to vote against - but dozens are believed to be considering abstaining or being absent, sources told the Guardian.

Rebels say the numbers in their ranks are hard to predict.

After seven Labour MPs had the whip suspended in July for voting for

Scottish National party amendment on the two-child benefit cap, rebelling over the winter fuel allowance, expected to bring the same consequences - although neither Starmer or No 10 would be drawn on this.

"I'd expect the vast majority of anyone who does rebel to abstain, and remain inside the tent," one Labour MP said. "Abstention is the new rebellion. It's a question of defining what dissent is, and it's probably better to do this than to jump off a cliff."

Although there is no chance of the vote being lost, a significant number

of absences would indicate the extent of disquiet over a policy many rebels

### Body Text

The main text of a news story, written by the reporter.

aged over 80 - would be meant to plug a £22bn "black hole" in the public finances. The number in England and Wales who receive it will fall from 11.4 million to 1.5 million, saving £1.5bn a year.

Tomorrow's vote was triggered by the Conservatives formally opposing the plan to strip the payment from all but the poorest pensioners.

In his first major TV interview since becoming prime minister, Starmer made it plain that he would not tolerate open dissent. Asked if he would apply the same policy of removing the whip from rebels, Starmer told the BBC's Laura Kuenssberg: "That will be a matter for the chief whip."

He continued: "We're going into a vote. I'm glad we're having a vote, because I think

## Corruption 'red flag' on £15bn Covid contracts

**Daniel Boffey**  
Chief reporter

### ◀ Byline

The name of the writer (s). Sometimes their job title or where they are writing from is included.

Corruption "red flag" on £15bn Covid contracts. More than £15bn have been awarded by the Conservative administration during the pandemic, according to a detailed study.

The analysis, billed as the most in-depth look yet at public procurement during the crisis, warns that systemic bias, opaque accounting and uncontrolled pricing resulted in vast waste of public funds on testing and personal protective equipment (PPE).

The review of more than 5,000 contracts across 400 public bodies identifies 135 high-risk contracts with a value of £15.3bn where investigation is merited due to the identification of three or more "red flags" for corruption, including a lack of competition, delays or failure to release information on procurement and conflicts of interest in the award of contracts.



### Page Furniture

Anything on the page which is in addition to the article itself.

## Failures at Lucy Letby hospital revealed

Investigation suggests neonatal unit 'out of its depth' amid staff shortages and superbug contamination  
**News Page 12** →

## 'Universities, not sandwich shops, bring Nobel prizes'

Ministers warn 'war on the man' instead of working  
**News Page 8** →

### ▼ Caption

Captions describe the photograph and link it to the news story. Often they include the photographer's name.

**Farewell Paris Paralympics finale brings Games to close**  
**News Page 11** →

France was transformed into a huge dance party last night as the Paris Paralympic Games drew to a close

### ◀ Edition Dots

We print up to three different editions per night. One dot means this is the first edition. During elections and special events, we may print up to five editions.