

'Pickets' at Ian Murray's Edinburgh office

Corbynista Drummer Picket demonstrated at Ian Murray's office in Edinburgh earlier this evening

While thousands marched in London to protest the attempted coup against the Labour leader, Jeremy Corbyn supporters in Edinburgh descended on the constituency office of Ian Murray, who resigned as Labour Shadow Scottish Secretary yesterday in a move to oust his leader.

The impromptu sound protest was organised by local Drumming group 'Edinburgh Rhythms of Resistance'.



Ian Murray MP for Edinburgh South

At 6 o'clock this evening, while rebel Labour MPs debated a vote of 'no confidence' in Corbyn, the protesters descended on Murray's office amidst loud samba drumming, chanting, and the handing out of leaflets.

"Murray has no mandate for this coup," said indignant drummer Ben Taylor. "we elected Corbyn our leader with a massive majority less than a year ago, but MPs like Ian Murray have been looking for an excuse to get rid of him ever since."

"After the Brexit vote we desperately need a strong opposition from Labour and SNP to the racism and attacks on workers' rights that will follow".

"Corbyn has the balls to recognise the deep anger felt by Brexit voters, and point to the real reasons – austerity and a politics that offers no alternative. The only thing the Blairites have seen in Brexit is a cynical opportunity for a coup while we're too shocked to react."

Ian Murray MP, Scotland's sole Labour representative in Westminster, is a member of the pro-Blair 'Progress' grouping and was among the first members of the shadow cabinet to resign yesterday, demanding an end to the leadership of Jeremy Corbyn in the aftermath of Brexit.



Photo courtesy of Jochen Stahnke
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"We held a samba practice session, chatted to the neighbours and handed out some leaflets." explained drummer Margot Dawson. "It was 6.30pm and the office was closed – as far as I'm aware none of Murray's staff were actually present. I'm saddened that instead of engaging with his own constituents, Ian Murray decided to make political capital out of us by throwing around accusations of intimidation about a protest he hadn't even seen."