Ruth Davidson announces she is pregnant with first baby

Scottish Conservative leader Ruth Davidson has announced that she is pregnant with her first child with partner Jen Wilson.

The baby is due in autumn and she expects to be back at work at Holyrood in early spring next year.

Ms Davidson who is MSP for Edinburgh Central said: "Jen and I are delighted to announce that I am expecting our first child in the late autumn.

"Like all new parents-to-be, we are excited — and daunted — about the months to come. Mostly, we are just overjoyed at the prospect of starting a family together.

"While this news may be unexpected for many people, let me reassure my constituents and voters across Scotland that there is no change to my political commitment or plans to lead the Scottish Conservatives into the 2021 Holyrood elections — I'm simply doing what thousands of working women do every year: having a child, taking some time off, and then returning to work soon after.

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Ruth Davidson with partner Jen Wilson and their dog who is also called Wilson. The family of three is about to become four.

"My deputy, Jackson Carlaw, will hold the fort for a few months while I am on maternity leave.

"I also know myself, so it's highly likely I won't be able to stay off the phone, demanding regular updates, during this time.

"In the meantime, it is business as usual. We have a very busy

few months ahead, and I look forward to throwing myself into events with customary gusto.

"While it often goes unacknowledged, politicians have personal lives too, and I hope people will understand that I want to be able to combine my public role with a family life.

"Jen and I are incredibly lucky in the support we have received from our family and friends over the past few months — and know we can rely on them in the months and years to come. I'd like to thank them all again today.

"We have always dreamed of starting a family and are so pleased to be able to share our happy news."

Never one to let a political opportunity go by, the First Minister Nicola Sturgeon tweeted:

Many congratulations to @RuthDavidsonMSP and her partner Jen on their lovely news. The baby box is on its way! \square

Nicola Sturgeon (@NicolaSturgeon) April 26, 2018

And the Prime Minister tweeted her congratulations :

Wonderful news! I'm very happy for you and Jen. https://t.co/SIyyEw66X7

- Theresa May (@theresa_may) April 26, 2018