

By **Ray D Ayton-Sands**, our Kirkcaldy Correspondent



Former prime minister Gordon Brown will focus on the security of his pensions in an last-ditch attempt to put forward a positive case for Scotland remaining in the UK.

The Labour MP and 'ex-politician' is due to make a speech in Glasgow on Tuesday as part of a week of positive campaigning which will focus on the many disasters which would inevitably follow separation.

Mr Brown said: "In every speech since the referendum was announced I have argued that the strongest case for the union and the greatest benefit to Scottish people is that we are allowed to pool and share our considerable resources with the rest of the United Kingdom.

"In Glasgow I will present detailed findings from new research that shows the multimillion-pound financial dividend this pensioner and his family gains from our membership of the UK.

"Now, I expect the separatists will harp on about all the tax grabs and pension raids I was responsible for as chancellor and prime minister, and they will probably rehash that rather insulting 75p increase I gave to pensioners. Blah, blah, blah.



"No doubt the Natz will moan about Alistair and I being largely responsible for the financial crash and then making it far worse by sitting on our hands for six months before taking any action.

"And of course they will have a point. An undeniably good one in fact.

"But, in spite of all this, let me remind the people of North Britain that I was one of the Labour visionaries who warned the nation about Iraqi WMDs and even went to war to find them.

"So who 'lacks all credibility' now, eh Nicola?

"Let's face it. Keeping Scotlandshire in the UK doesn't just PROTECT my pension plan, it IS my pension plan."

Better Together leader Alistair Darling, who was Chancellor under Mr Brown, said: "Gordy's 30 years of experience inform his powerful argument that Scotland can benefit from seizing the opportunities that come from being part of the UK .

"On pensions, Gordon Brown will argue the strong case for sharing resources across the whole of the UK. The years of grinding austerity and loss of Barnett funding that will follow a No vote will reduce life expectancy in Scotlandshire, currently the lowest in the UK, still further .



"This will mean we are better placed to deal with pension challenges in Scotlandshire in the years to come as, given at least one cold winter, there will be far fewer pensioners left alive to demand a handout. "

“We are heralding this as a positive campaign as we in Project Fear are all absolutely positive that separation would be awful in every conceivable way – and you really can't get more positive than that, can you?” said Blare McDonut, the (engorged) head of U-KOK.

Mr Brown's speech will be delivered to members of CBI Scotlandshire. In accordance with Better Together tradition, the venue is to be announced five minutes before the start in case any undecided voters or cybernatz try to gain entry and ask an unscripted question.

Insiders tell us that, given recent changes in CBI Scotlandshire's membership, the most likely location for the meeting is in the back of a Glasgow taxi.

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