

Critics questioned Davies's decision to share a platform with J4MB, which issues awards for "lying feminist of the month", "toxic feminist of the month" and "whiny feminist of the month", and promotes inflammatory articles on its website including a piece titled "13 reasons women lie about being raped".

J4MB says it intends to target the 20 most marginal Conservative constituencies in the next general election and has the income to fund its candidates' £500 deposits.

The party is led and was founded by Mike Buchanan, a former business consultant who retired at 52 and launched campaigns such as the Anti-Feminism League and the Campaign for Merit in Business – which actively fights against initiatives to improve gender diversity in the boardroom.

Davies, a pro-Brexit campaigner who backed Andrea Leadsom for the Tory leadership, appeared alongside anti-feminism bloggers, including Herbert Purdy – who likened the activist Malala Yousafzai to Osama bin Laden and has written posts such as one titled "The exquisite beauty of patriarchy".

He told the media he did not believe his appearance at an event hosted by J4MB meant he subscribed to what the party stood for, adding: "I don't think any of my colleagues will ever feel threatened by the political party concerned."