

# Daily UK Party Leaders Mentions

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## **Nigel Farage**

'We were missing in the conversation': how Zack Polanski hit on plan to beat Reform at their own game  
Guardian (UK News) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 14:30:10 GMT

This time last year Polanski was barely known outside the party. Now he's hoping for success at May's local elections - by taking a page from Nigel Farage's playbook Zack Polanski finally decided to stand as the Greens' leader, he says, after witnessing the party being eclipsed by Reform in last May's local elections a

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2026/jan/02/zack-polanski-interview-green-party-leader-taking-on-reform>

A year that will dictate Starmer's fate as prime minister

Financial Times (UK) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 14:00:06 GMT

This government behaves as if it is being run as a riposte to Nigel Farage rather than because it believes in anything

<https://www.ft.com/content/2a0bef58-ad84-47dd-a093-178fd49552c7>

Blair's advertising guru slams Stamer's lack of plan to tackle rise of **Farage**'s Reform

Independent (News) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 12:51:02 GMT

Sir Chris Powell said having no strategy against Reform UK was 'potentially suicidal for our freedom and democracy'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/stamer-farage-reform-labour-blair-b2893504.html>

Here's a pick-me-up for the January blues: this could well be **Nigel Farage**'s last year on top | Simon Jenkins

Guardian (Politics) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 12:37:46 GMT

There's no doubting the charisma of its leader, but Reform UK lacks the depth and experience needed to govern – and voters are quickly realising that I fear for Nigel Farage. This should be his big year, the make-or-break 2026. Last year his Reform party finally began to top the polls and he was feted by Washington as

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2026/jan/02/nigel-farage-january-year-reform-uk-voters>

Knight Frank appointed for bumper Brighton Palace Pier sale

City AM (News) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 11:19:50 +0000

Knight Frank has been instructed on the sale of Brighton Palace Pier, two months after the Grade II-listed landmark's owners revealed their plans to offload the amusement park amid a barrage of economic headwinds. The Brighton Pier Group appointed the property giant to seek a buyer for the coastal attraction, whi

<https://www.cityam.com/knight-frank-appointed-for-bumper-brighton-palace-pier-sale/>

Neighbours at war as homeowner knocks down old garage 'without permission' to build two-bedroom cottage in his back garden

Daily Mail (UK News) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 00:40:14 GMT

Daniel Rayan demolished a rundown workshop and garage to the rear of his property in Poole, Dorset, and started building the cottage in its place.

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15426945/Neighbours-war-developer-garage-two-bedroom-cottage.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490&ito=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15426945/Neighbours-war-developer-garage-two-bedroom-cottage.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)

## **Keir Starmer**

A year that will dictate **Starmer's** fate as prime minister

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<https://www.ft.com/content/2a0bef58-ad84-47dd-a093-178fd49552c7>

### Embracing elective dictatorship could save **Starmer**

City AM (News) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 13:51:08 +0000

Starmer's government should be the most powerful in the West. To save the Labour party he must remember that in 2026, writes John McTernan.

<https://www.cityam.com/embracing-elective-dictatorship-could-save-starmer/>

'Weird' priorities of civil servants behind UK's support for Egyptian 'extremist' at centre of citizenship row, says **Keir Starmer's** former aide

Daily Mail (UK News) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 13:49:11 GMT

Paul Ovenden, who quit as the Prime Minister's director of strategy in September, said Mr Abd El-Fattah's case was a 'running joke' among Downing Street staff.

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15428687/Weird-civil-servants-UKs-support-Egyptian-extremist-centre-citizen-ship-row-says-Keir-Starmers-former-aide.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490&ito=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15428687/Weird-civil-servants-UKs-support-Egyptian-extremist-centre-citizen-ship-row-says-Keir-Starmers-former-aide.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)

### Blair's advertising guru slams Stamer's lack of plan to tackle rise of Farage's Reform

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<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/stamer-farage-reform-labour-blair-b2893504.html>

### Poorest have got poorer under Labour while the richest are better off, stark new figures show

Independent (News) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 12:26:21 GMT

Prime minister Keir Starmer pledges to 'wage all out war' on the high cost of living

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/keir-starmer-labour-wealth-tax-budget-b2893442.html>

### State of the art: Chinese market flounders

Economist (Latest) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 11:40:02 +0000

Also on the daily podcast: Who is leaving Britain and the last American cent

<https://www.economist.com/podcasts/2026/01/02/state-of-the-art-chinese-market-flounders>

'Weird' priorities of civil servants behind UK's support for Egyptian 'extremist' at centre of citizenship row, says **Keir Starmer's** former aide - Daily Mail

Daily Mail via Google (keir starmer) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 10:55:53 GMT

'Weird' priorities of civil servants behind UK's support for Egyptian 'extremist' at centre of citizenship row, says Keir Starmer's former aide &nbsp;&nbsp; Daily Mail

<https://news.google.com/rss/articles/CBMi8gFBVV95cUxOTi1mdGpKZndVeDRTRVNFVVNsOGw4a01rWmw5dnIWQjN5QmY5ck53OUw4MXdotFJITjNlazZlb0lnRDN5cm9sQXdMYkctWWw1RVgyY3BPb0tGM3JIY3ZXQWJhdFNSb3hsTmtGelFqRGJCYTBSmQ5TFI3U2VxRFNLTfPQXRsVVV5dkJocUjkUmFvckxZZ3p4RFRHa0R5aThOUkhLaEQzRTdHMmdjZ3hJeXI3VHh5YV9KdnNLbE1EWXNzS2xveUJYZFR4UkhNMloxFHNxN2RpZEEx2Y21UejNOb3U0T21wME10eTRCTV93RXdSd9IB9wFBVV95cUxNWXo3VHJYYa0dRUktTTHM2WHlxewxEVgx4aGi4Si9QQXRkZXIDLXNoNGYzTIIxVNwRXNrSWJpT09INzRHc0VOuk9rUThMdXZXYktJQjFxMXVRTXcxNlloU1NYcW00NWdTc0VqTjd3TY2dlczcGdmWjg5WFU4MWhfU3ZwcDJZUk1CUFZYWXdRemIx0cya2pOTTJaUlo1aHhHa1VUaUIVbHJrXzJycWZkY0RyZnRIT0tKTWdQTVlzSkNyV3U2ZGZabnVwd3pTazMySUPITEI2ZERnU2Q5VnA3Uktha0doN2dmNGRRdnImZ0o2U05nNVV3?oc=5>

Distractions over Abd el-Fattah were running joke, says ex-**Starmer** adviser

Guardian (Politics) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 10:07:53 GMT

Paul Ovenden argues time spent discussing political prisoner was symptom of government struggling to focus Efforts to free Alaa Abd el-Fattah regularly distracted Keir Starmer's government from focusing on bread-and-butter domestic political issues, according to one of the prime minister's closest former advisers. Paul

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2026/jan/02/abd-el-fattah-distractions-running-joke-says-ex-starmer-adviser-paul-ovenden>

Top lawyer who mentored Sir **Keir Starmer** condemns Prime Minister's plans to curb jury trials

Daily Mail (UK News) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 08:17:59 GMT

Edward Fitzgerald KC (pictured) said it was 'most unfortunate' that Labour was planning to get rid of juries for all but the most serious criminal offences in a bid to cut through the courts backlog.

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15427053/edward-fitzgerald-keir-starmer-condemns-jury-trials.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490&ito=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15427053/edward-fitzgerald-keir-starmer-condemns-jury-trials.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)

Top lawyer who mentored Sir **Keir Starmer** condemns Prime Minister's plans to curb jury trials - Daily Mail

Daily Mail via Google (keir starmer) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 08:17:59 GMT

Top lawyer who mentored Sir Keir Starmer condemns Prime Minister's plans to curb jury trials &nbsp;&nbsp; Daily Mail

<https://news.google.com/rss/articles/CBMiqgFBVV95cUxObIE0d3FsbG5xVFZMaC1ocnRrNW5DVzRUzzZLSGRGYnhTcUZWNk5XMG9qWGxxUk1UdFN6RzdTaHBliei1GRS00ckszano5U21aUjZuX2VGTFZPbzVCWU9CUkNQdEpDSXVEYWPuc3A4RHRUZG1UR2VnYVvyNUpYaXRnU1BaOUJrNmxZQXoxdWgxRW1kbnU2Z2pQT1p1VG10dTBDNURYNE95bDA4d9IBrwFBVV95cUxOZGxva05fZFBuuU1DRTVxMjNXeDI0TUNkRmEyblhwR1Q5Zk10Q0dwTVpKZFcyNVR1NFIKZUZrNFRKN2xBakdwMjBNS1REYmFaQlhZdVpWU3VqUHFHZEZodzlGQkV0SGNISWpaT2dlazdzQ3pENHAxRxgyQXpwN2YxSI9veU8yOUdrTmpESWRPQXZZemVTREFQLU5KWlhNSGxObUISYUFoNXQ2NIVJb2g0?oc=5>

The silver linings that could give **Keir Starmer** some economic cheer

Financial Times (World) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 05:00:16 GMT

Falling UK inflation rate and prospect of interest rate cuts mean there could be upside surprises for PM in 2026

<https://www.ft.com/content/e14be26e-2d92-45af-9f2c-245e8d8a11bf>

## Kemi Badenoch

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## **John Swinney**

— no mentions today —

## **Ed Davey**

Britain's brightest dog knows the name of 221 toys and now he's finding other bright sparks

Daily Mirror (News) · Fri, 2 Jan 2026 14:17:14 +0000

Harvey the Border Collie was crowned 'Britain's brightest dog' after learning the names of all his 221 todays. He is so clever he is now helping two studies to find out what makes him 'special' and how his games could be used to sniff out other clever dogs

<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/weird-news/britains-brightest-dog-knows-name-36487056>

West Ham flop seals cut-price exit, Harvey Elliott's MLS lifeline and two Tottenham men are off out on loan: TRANSFER WINDOW WATCH

Daily Mail (Articles) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 13:55:34 +0000

Daily Mail Sport brings you the latest updates and insights from the January transfer market as West Ham United close in on signing two forwards.

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-15427627/west-ham-taty-castellanos-transfer.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ito=1490&ns\\_campaign=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-15427627/west-ham-taty-castellanos-transfer.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ito=1490&ns_campaign=1490)

## **Rhun Ap Iorwerth**

— no mentions today —

## **Mary Lou McDonald**

Donald Trump's aides forced to make major change to combat president's health issue

Daily Mirror (News) · Fri, 2 Jan 2026 14:36:34 +0000

Donald Trump's aides have reportedly been forced to speak louder in meetings so the President can hear them, according to reports, as speculation around his health continues

<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/us-news/donald-trumps-aides-forced-make-36487614>

My years of hell: JANE MCDONALD reveals why she had to sell her £1million forever home, the tragic impact of her mother and fiancé's deaths... and why she no longer cares what people think of her

Daily Mail (Articles) · Fri, 02 Jan 2026 13:25:34 +0000

When Jane McDonald lost her mother and fiancé within three years of each other, she continued living in the Wakefield bungalow she had called home for 20 years. But last year she decided to sell it.

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-15428803/JANE-MCDONALD-sell-home-tragic-impact-deaths.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ito=1490&ns\\_campaign=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/tvshowbiz/article-15428803/JANE-MCDONALD-sell-home-tragic-impact-deaths.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ito=1490&ns_campaign=1490)

**Gavin Robinson**

— no mentions today —