

# Daily UK Party Leaders Mentions

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## ***Nigel Farage***

By taking in Tory misfits by the busload, **Nigel Farage** is turning Reform into the very elites they despise. This is why he's doing Kemi Badenoch a great favour: DAN HODGES

Daily Mail (Articles) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 10:57:45 +0000

A couple of days ago, during her appearance on Desert Island discs, Kemi Badenoch was asked why she first joined the Conservatives.

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-15506861/By-taking-Tory-misfits-busload-Nigel-Farage-turning-Reform-elites-despise-hes-doing-Kemi-Badenoch-great-favour-DAN-HODGES.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ito=1490&ns\\_campaign=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-15506861/By-taking-Tory-misfits-busload-Nigel-Farage-turning-Reform-elites-despise-hes-doing-Kemi-Badenoch-great-favour-DAN-HODGES.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ito=1490&ns_campaign=1490)

Doom loop of decline: how struggling high streets fuel far-right sympathies in UK

Guardian (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 10:45:05 GMT

Retail accounts for 5% of the UK economy – but its visibility gives it an outsize influence on public perception Up and down Britain there are boarded-up shops. Banks and department stores have been replaced by vape shops, barbers and bookmakers. Shoplifting is at a record high, local services cut, and public frustrati

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2026/jan/29/doom-loop-of-decline-how-struggling-high-streets-fuel-far-right-sympathies-in-uk>

**Farage's** attack on Turkish barber shops is dog-whistle racism, minister says

Guardian (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 10:45:04 GMT

Miatta Fahnbulleh accuses Reform leader of 'politics of grievance' while having no plan to fix UK high streets Doom loop of decline: how struggling high streets fuel far-right sympathies in UK | Analysis Nigel Farage's attack on Turkish barber shops amounts to dog-whistle racism without a credible plan to fix strugglin

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2026/jan/29/farages-attack-on-turkish-barber-shops-is-dog-whistle-racism-minister-says>

The Polanski effect? These charts reveal how much the Greens have advanced

Guardian (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 07:37:18 GMT

The Green party has made gains under its leader – but there is also uncertainty ahead The Greens talk of a "Polanski effect" – a surge of momentum and visibility since Zack Polanski became leader, as the party gains attention in an increasingly fragmented political landscape. The polls offer the clearest signal so far

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2026/jan/29/zack-polanski-effect-charts-reveal-greens-advance>

Would it have killed Kemi to throw Tory centrists a bone?

City AM (News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 05:57:00 +0000

Speaking to City AM at the start of this week the former John Lewis boss and West Midlands mayor, Andy Street, insisted that the Tories can beat Reform if they embrace the centre-right and resist the urge to fight Nigel Farage on his own turf. The new vehicle launched to make this case is called [...]

<https://www.cityam.com/kemi-badenoch-could-have-been-nicer-about-tory-centrists/>

## **Keir Starmer**

Britons travelling to China will no longer need visas, No 10 announces after **Starmer** meeting with Xi

Independent (News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 11:01:51 GMT

Sir Keir Starmer has secured a deal on visa-free travel to China for UK citizens during his visit to Beijing, Downing Street has announced.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/uk-china-visa-travel-starmer-xi-b2910047.html>

Fifth man, 19, is arrested over **Keir Starmer** arson attacks in north London

Daily Mail (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 10:57:08 GMT

Scotland Yard said a 19-year-old male was arrested yesterday in Harlow, Essex, on suspicion of conspiracy to commit arson.

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15508797/fifth-man-arrested-alleged-arson-keir-starmer.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490&ito=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15508797/fifth-man-arrested-alleged-arson-keir-starmer.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)

Andy Burnham reveals **Starmer** refused to speak to him before by-election block as Greens 'weaponise Gaza' against Labour

Daily Mail (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 10:56:06 GMT

Andy Burnham said he would have 'preferred' to speak to the PM before he was refused permission to be Labour's candidate.

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15508891/Andy-Burnham-reveals-Starmer-refused-speak-election-block-Greens-weaponise-Gaza-against-Labour.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490&ito=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15508891/Andy-Burnham-reveals-Starmer-refused-speak-election-block-Greens-weaponise-Gaza-against-Labour.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)

Andy Burnham insists he did not want to 'undermine' **Starmer** with bid to stand in by-election

Independent (News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 10:50:23 GMT

The Greater Manchester mayor was blocked from standing in the north west seat

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/andy-burnham-byelection-gorton-and-denton-reform-keir-starmer-labour-b2910043.html>

**Starmer**-Xi meeting live: UK prime minister says he wants 'more sophisticated' relationship with China

Guardian (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 10:44:02 GMT

Starmer tells Xi Jinping during Beijing meeting that it has been 'too long' since a British PM has visited China. Full report: Xi says he hopes China and UK can 'rise above differences' For more context on today's Starmer - Xi meeting, China is the world's second-biggest economy and Britain's third-largest trading part

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/live/2026/jan/29/starmer-xi-jinping-meeting-uk-china-relationship-live>

**Starmer** signs landmark deal with China to tackle small boats crisis

Independent (News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 10:31:09 GMT

The agreement to share data is significant because 60 per cent of the engines used to power the small boats come from China

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/uk-migrant-crossings-small-boats-china-deal-b2910014.html>

**Starmer** tells Xi UK wants more 'sophisticated' relationship with China

Financial Times (UK) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 10:16:05 GMT

Two leaders meet in Beijing as both sides seek improved relations

<https://www.ft.com/content/db6ce84e-c597-4f8e-baed-419b03200831>

We're both Reds! Communist Xi Jinping tells **Keir Starmer** he prefers Labour governments as 'kowtowing' PM pitches for trade in Beijing

Daily Mail (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 10:10:16 GMT

Keir Starmer held two hours of talks with the autocratic president in Beijing in the early hours of this morning, insisting he wants a more 'sophisticated' relationship.

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15508245/Xi-Jinping-Keir-Starmer-turns-relations-China-UK.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490&ito=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15508245/Xi-Jinping-Keir-Starmer-turns-relations-China-UK.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)

Lame duck **Starmer** 'kills hopes of benefits curbs in King's Speech' amid fears of revolt by Labour MPs

Daily Mail (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 09:25:32 GMT

No10 is said to have told the Department for Work and Pensions there will be no space in the legislation package - expected in May.

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15508625/Keir-Starmer-benefits-curbs-Kings-Speech-revolt-Labour-MPs.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490&ito=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15508625/Keir-Starmer-benefits-curbs-Kings-Speech-revolt-Labour-MPs.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)

**Starmer** says 'good progress' on tariffs and visa-free travel in China talks

BBC (Politics) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 09:18:36 GMT

The PM says he also raised the jailing of pro-democracy campaigner Jimmy Lai in his meeting with President Xi.

[https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c150yv75pn7o?at\\_medium=RSS&at\\_campaign=rss](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c150yv75pn7o?at_medium=RSS&at_campaign=rss)

Lame duck **Starmer** 'kills hopes of benefits curbs in King's Speech' amid fears of revolt by Labour MPs - Daily Mail

Daily Mail via Google (keir starmer) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 09:17:34 GMT

Lame duck Starmer 'kills hopes of benefits curbs in King's Speech' amid fears of revolt by Labour MPs &nbsp;&nbsp;  Daily Mail

<https://news.google.com/rss/articles/CBMiswFBVV95cUxOb2FJaU5LOG43NzR2MExSQXBvTmJXMC1PUThubWhaenVodjh1WFZYIY1SWYyeIVzODBSzVFOW9Ja2ILQkU5RG9jNHVIRjIzM0xOTnJwN0FaVJQc1ZJWkoxUURIdHR3OWNqNDB5TWwhVVG2RkVDeWRpSU5XOGg5YkdvUG1mN2ZrUXk1OTRvVHITN1daZXFERDdHN0JXNnpnNnFKVFIZN2E2S1gwcjFEeDJvZ9IBuAFBVV95cUxQNzhoOUJ5WGllcHRVvMVHUGpzd1ZsZWRMTEY2aEdadFRpZiJuV3BNeRoUdjMld3ZVRoc1VWekILZ0kzVnJJaXQyLXRWbGF1bFjV2ZOV3RvTGwtUGpCb1BjTHh6Mi1iLUZrX0ZMOUt fQW5BZk1qWjZRLVZDNnVJeExZcWZYelpUjRFZEZqWUdfeE42NzAwWUY2djKOVd6VkFNNXNZRjJmaVIncIZTZkdpVDFfUEJL?oc=5>

As **Starmer** heads to China, Brits rush to by Chinese EVs

City AM (News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 08:43:50 +0000

A couple of years ago, I was invited to the launch of a new Chinese EV brand called Omoda. Myself and a small handful of journalists showed up to an inauspicious launch event in the basement of a Covent Garden hotel. In the room was parked (I'm still not sure how they got it down [...])

<https://www.cityam.com/as-starmer-heads-to-china-brits-rush-to-by-chinese-evs/>

ANDREW PIERCE: **Starmer's** mistake over Burnham could finish off his wretched premiership and lead to a win for Reform

Daily Mail (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 08:32:11 GMT

Yet another mistake by our Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer. But this time the error could finish off his wretched premiership for good. The Burnham debacle means Labour may lose that by-election.



attract financial backing. The Prime Minister has faced intense criticism from all sides of the House of Commons

<https://www.cityam.com/exclusive-starmers-opponents-receive-largest-donations-in-parliament/>

UK probably needs large new factory to meet target of 1.3m cars a year, say industry boss

Guardian (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 00:01:31 GMT

Mike Hawes casts doubt on Labour's plan to double production by 2035, as Starmer visits China with carmaker delegation A target of building 1.3m cars a year is likely to be missed unless a large new UK factory is built in the coming years, an industry group has said, as Keir Starmer prepares to hold trade talks in China

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2026/jan/29/britain-car-building-target-2035-industry>

## **Kemi Badenoch**

By taking in Tory misfits by the busload, Nigel Farage is turning Reform into the very elites they despise. This is why he's doing **Kemi Badenoch** a great favour: DAN HODGES

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Why the Tories should move back to the centre

Financial Times (World) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 09:34:51 GMT

Kemi Badenoch should stop presenting the party as anti-system and instead champion its centrist achievements

<https://www.ft.com/content/9928f2c4-38d7-4d5e-a38b-ca292e2d79ba>

I won't be blown off course, vows Kemi, as she slaps down defectors 'having tantrums' and new Tory centrists

Daily Mail (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 08:09:15 GMT

In a speech on Wednesday, Kemi Badenoch likened the recent wave of high-profile defectors to Reform to children 'having tantrums'

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15506471/I-wont-blown-course-vows-Kemi-slaps-defectors.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490&ito=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15506471/I-wont-blown-course-vows-Kemi-slaps-defectors.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)

QUENTIN LETTS: In the room where Churchill announced the sinking of the Bismarck, **Kemi Badenoch** unleashed torpedoes at the Right and Left, from defecting 'drama queens' to 'scheming' Labour

Daily Mail (Articles) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 07:52:59 +0000

Kemi Badenoch has developed a conversational tone when making political speeches. The voice is throaty, smoky, unstressed, sardonic.

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-15506535/QUENTIN-LETT-Churchill-Kemi-Badenoch-Right-Left-defecting-scheming-Labour.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ito=1490&ns\\_campaign=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-15506535/QUENTIN-LETT-Churchill-Kemi-Badenoch-Right-Left-defecting-scheming-Labour.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ito=1490&ns_campaign=1490)

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<https://www.cityam.com/kemi-badenoch-could-have-been-nicer-about-tory-centrists/>

## **John Swinney**

— no mentions today —

## **Ed Davey**

Daughter's horror as British Airways 'demands dad's death certificate for flight refund' - despite him still being alive

Daily Mail (Articles) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 09:43:39 +0000

Liz Horne was on holiday with her husband in Chiang Mai, Thailand when she was told that her dad was gravely ill. She decided to take the first flight back home to be with him.

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/travel/article-15508545/daughter-horror-british-airways-demand-death-certificate-refund-man-alive.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ito=1490&ns\\_campaign=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/travel/article-15508545/daughter-horror-british-airways-demand-death-certificate-refund-man-alive.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ito=1490&ns_campaign=1490)

Was King Charles right to put pressure on President Trump to withdraw comments about Afghanistan? Have your say in the Palace Confidential poll

Daily Mail (Articles) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 08:10:38 +0000

You've read the headlines and heard our experts' opinions - but what do YOU think?

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/royals/article-15504765/King-Charles-President-Trump-Afghanistan-Palace-Confidential-poll.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ito=1490&ns\\_campaign=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/royals/article-15504765/King-Charles-President-Trump-Afghanistan-Palace-Confidential-poll.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ito=1490&ns_campaign=1490)

Amateur MMA fighter bravely fought off XL Bully who tossed him around 'like a rag-doll' during savage attack - as he credits training for his 'miraculous' survival

Daily Mail (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 06:30:34 GMT

Joseph Bennett, 21, was repeatedly bitten and had his bicep torn out by the 65kg XL Bully dog, named Hunter, while looking after it for a friend.

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15505635/Amateur-MMA-fighter-XL-Bully-attack.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490&ito=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15505635/Amateur-MMA-fighter-XL-Bully-attack.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)

## **Rhun Ap Iorwerth**

— no mentions today —

## **Mary Lou McDonald**

Donald Trump 'feels worse' about Renee Good murder because her parents 'were Trump fans'

Daily Mirror (News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 11:01:30 +0000

Trump's startling admission comes after he learned that Renee Good's dad was a supporter of his - with the President saying he hoped the parent still 'loved' him

<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/us-news/donald-trump-feels-worse-renee-36634935>

Donald Trump's chilling threat to Iran: President says his 'beautiful armada' of warships are ready to attack - while Tehran claims it will respond like never before

Daily Mail (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 08:51:59 GMT

As the US President's 'beautiful armada' of warships moved into position, the Tehran regime said any attack would be 'an act of war'.

[https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15507469/Donald-Trumps-chilling-threat-Iran-President.html?ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490&ito=1490](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15507469/Donald-Trumps-chilling-threat-Iran-President.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490)

**Gavin Robinson**

— no mentions today —