

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

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 Banks and department stores have been replaced by vape shops, barbers and bookmakers.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 frustration

<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 struggling

<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

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

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-c597-4fbe-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

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

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

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
Daily Mail

<https://news.google.com/rss/articles/CBMiswFBVV95cUxOb2FJaU5LOG43NzR2MExSQXBvTmJXMC1PUThubWhae nVodjh1WFZYZIY1SWYyelVzODBRSzVFOW9Ja2ILQkU5RG9jNHVIRjlzM0xOTnJwN0FaVVJQc1ZJWkoxUURldHR3 OWNqNDB5TWhwVVg2RkVDeWRpSU5XOGg5YkdvUG1mN2ZrUXk1OTRpVHITN1daZXFERDdHN0JXNnpmNnFK VFIZN2E2S1gwcjFEEeDJvZ9lBuAFBVV95cUxQNzhnOUJ5WGllcHRVVmVHUGpzd1ZsZWRMTEY2aEdadFRpZlJuV3 BNenRoaUdjMld3ZVRoc1VWekILZ0kzVnJJaXQyLXRWbGF1bIFjV2ZOv3RvTGwtUGpCb1BjTHh6Mi1iLUZrX0ZMOUt fQW5BZK1qWjZRLVZDNhVJeExZcWZYelplUjRFZEZqWUdfeE42NzAwWUY2djKOv6VkfNNXNZRjJmaVInclZTZk dpVDFfUEJL?oc=5>

As **Starmer** heads to China, Brits rush to buy 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-buy-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.

https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15508435/Video-ANDREW-PIERCE-Starmer-mistake-finish-wretched-premiership-good.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490

Xi tells **Starmer** there's been too many 'twists and turns' in relations - Daily Mail

Daily Mail via Google (keir starmer) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 06:10:25 GMT

Xi tells Starmer there's been too many 'twists and turns' in relations Daily Mail

<https://news.google.com/rss/articles/CBMipgFBVV95cUxNeTYtY0s5NC12UVdjNGMtYkJGYnVuY0xXZzBjVWhCTUDPcWNXQk9BRGlmU1RmQnJ1enREWGhQUGF2ldLN2tidkhhb0sybUR0bTNJZTFuTm03VkrRa0R4c3BtaXI0TkNNSW5GRjFwVIvidTR3Rk5ZRjZYk1pZIZCVHpycmswQkVPNU56LVA0R1REdkx4QjdjTTN5UUdvYjZsYjJSYU5R?oc=5>

FirstFT: Tesla accelerates AI pivot

Financial Times (World) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 05:31:14 GMT

Also in today's newsletter: Starmer-Xi meeting and Prada's supplier audit

<https://www.ft.com/content/dd0dad69-3c4b-4f76-a14f-dc91083874a4>

Xi-**Starmer** meeting: Chinese leader tells PM he hopes both countries can 'rise above differences'

Guardian (Politics) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 05:31:13 GMT

At Beijing talks, British prime minister Keir Starmer tells Xi he wants a 'more sophisticated' relationship with China Starmer-Xi meeting – live updates Chinese leader Xi Jinping has said the UK's relationship with his country had gone through "twists and turns" over the years but that a more "consistent" approach was

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2026/jan/29/xi-starmer-china-uk-meeting-chinese-leader-rise-above-differences-sophisticated>

'Kowtow Keir' **Starmer** defends 'naive' decision to cosy up to China - as he gifts Man Utd-loving dictator Xi Jinping a prized match ball

Daily Mail (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 04:31:21 GMT

Sir Keir is due to meet President Xi in the small hours of Thursday morning after becoming the first British PM to travel to China in eight years.

https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15506739/Kowtow-Keir-Starmer-defends-naive-decision-cosy-China-gifts-Man-Utd-loving-dictator-Xi-Jinping-prized-match-ball.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490

Keir Starmer meets Xi Jinping in Beijing in bid to improve UK-China relations and boost trade

Independent (News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 03:29:16 GMT

The leaders of China and the U.K. are meeting as the two nations try to improve relations after years of tension

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/keir-starmer-beijing-china-xi-jinping-national-peoples-congress-b2909861.html>

How China could be blocked from building wind farms in Britain amid fears over security

Daily Mail (UK News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 01:16:28 GMT

Sir Keir Starmer said his Government is still considering whether or not to allow one firm, Mingyang, to set up a £1.5billion turbine manufacturing plant in Scotland.

https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15506525/How-China-blocked-building-wind-farms-Britain-amid-fears-security.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490

Exclusive: **Starmer**'s opponents receive largest donations in parliament

City AM (News) · Thu, 29 Jan 2026 00:26:00 +0000

Keir Starmer's fiercest opponents have received the largest sums of cash donations since the General Election, City AM analysis has shown, as moves to weaken the Labour leader's dominance in Westminster

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

<https://www.cityam.com/exclusive-starmer-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 Chin

<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

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-LETTS-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

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

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

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=ss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490

Gavin Robinson

— no mentions today —