

# REFORM'S

**DON'T KNOW**

# MANIFESTO

**ALL COMPLAINTS, NO ANSWERS**

**REFORM  
UK**



**REFORM**  
**UK**

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# ALL COMPLAINTS, NO ANSWERS

**This weekend, Reform are gathering in Birmingham at their annual Party Conference.**

**Nigel Farage and his colleagues will complain. They will shout. They will blame. But they won't have answers. They never do.**

Reform know what they don't like. But they don't know how they would fix things. And that's why Nigel Farage's favourite answer is:

**DON'T KNOW**

You might think Nigel Farage's party has a clear position on immigration - after all, they talk about it a lot. But on asylum, after spending months trying to come up with a policy on mass deportations, it took just 24 hours for the plan to start unravelling. They just can't explain how the plan will work.

Nigel Farage has long called for an insurance-based system of healthcare, but asked what Reform would replace the current NHS model with, he says "I don't know the answer yet."



When it comes to the Online Safety Act, Reform want to scrap it but they don't know what they want to put in its place.

Again and again, Reform announce what sounds like a policy, and then row back from it. On crime, Farage bragged that Reform would send the most serious criminals to El Salvador, then admitted that it “may be a quite extreme example”. On steel, he said that Reform would reopen blast furnaces in Port Talbot, then admitted, “That’s impossible”. Lots of bluster again, but no substance.

Anger without answers can only get you so far. “Don’t Know” doesn’t put more money in people’s pockets, “Don’t Know” doesn’t fix the NHS, and “Don’t Know” doesn’t control immigration.

**But until Reform work out what they want, not just what they hate, their Don’t Know manifesto is all they have to offer.**

# ASYLUM

## REFORM'S POLICY

**Detain and then deport all illegal migrants. But where will they be detained? Does that include women and children? What incentives will be provided to countries like Iran?**



### What Reform is saying:

*"I'm not going to be drawn on the specifics of any individual geographical location."*

**Nigel Farage, Reform press conference, 26 August 2025**

*"Yes, women and children, everybody on arrival will be detained."*

**Nigel Farage, Reform press conference, 26 August 2025**

*"I was very, very clear yesterday in what I said that that the deportation of illegal immigrants, we were not even discussing women and children at this stage."*

**Nigel Farage, Reform press conference, 27 August 2025**

**Chris McKean:** One of the countries you suggested sending people back to was Iran, a country which poses a national security risk to the UK and has attempted to kidnap and murder people in this country. What financial incentives are you suggesting you offer them to take deportees back?

**Nigel Farage:** Can I be clear that nobody, no young man from Iran who arrives by boat should be walking the streets of our country. Under no circumstances. Absolutely no way. Never. That shouldn't be done.

**Reform press conference, 26 August 2025**

## What Labour is doing

**Labour is fixing the broken asylum system we inherited. Asylum decision-making has more than doubled, and the number of people in hotels fell by nearly 6,000 in the first three months of 2025. We've introduced stronger measures to cut the backlog and have committed to ending the use of asylum hotels completely by the end of this Parliament. We've already returned more than 35,000 people with no right to be in the UK – a 13% increase on the previous year. We're restoring order to the asylum system so that it operates swiftly, firmly and fairly.**

# IMMIGRATION

## REFORM'S POLICY

**Cap the number of people coming to the UK on essential worker visas. What will that number be?**



### What Reform is saying:

**Sam Coates:** Will you put a cap on the number of people who can come in under your essential skills exemption, particularly in healthcare for people that come into the country.

**Nigel Farage:** By the time of the next election, we will. I can't tell you the numbers right now, I don't have all of the figures.

**Sam Coates:** So you are committing to a cap on the numbers of [-interrupted]

**Nigel Farage:** You ask me in four years alright? Ask me in four years' time. You can play whatever silly games you want right now.

**Sky News, 12 May 2025**

*"Dear Home Secretary/Minister for Care*

***Re: Changes in Immigration Rules – July 2025***

*I am writing to you with grave concern for the new immigration bill plans to reduce health and social care visas to the United Kingdom and in particular closing the Social Care Worker Visa route to overseas recruitment for new applicants from 22 July 2025*

**Linden Kemkaran, Reform Leader of Kent County Council, 14 July 2025**

## What Labour is doing

**Labour promised to get net migration down and to introduce a proper points-based system that brings control back to our borders.**

**We're also prioritising UK training over recruitment from abroad, tightening student and graduate visas, and introducing tougher settlement rules.**

## REFORM'S POLICY

**Abolish the current model of funding the NHS out of general taxation and replace it with**



### What Reform is saying:

**Lewis Goodall:** You are not committed to the model as it currently exists and would be open therefore to an insurance based model?

**Nigel Farage:** Open to anything.

**LBC, 26 January 2025**

**Beth Rigby:** Just to be clear, do you think it should still be funded through general taxation? You think you need to look at the funding model.

**Nigel Farage:** No, no, no. I do not want it funded through general taxation. It doesn't work. It's not working.

**Sky News, 1 May 2025**

"I just want to try and find a way where this vast amount of money gets us a better delivery. And by the way, I don't know the answer yet, but I'm thinking about all the options."

**Nigel Farage, LBC, 3 July 2025**

## What Labour is doing

**Labour believes in an NHS fully funded through general taxation, free at the point of use, and we are giving it a record £29 billion funding boost to help get the NHS back on its feet.**

**We've delivered almost 5 million extra appointments, helping more patients get the care they need. We've put 2,000 additional GPs in place. And waiting lists have fallen by 250,000.**

## REFORM'S POLICY

**Cut taxes... Which ones? For who? When?**



### What Reform is saying:

Reform's 2024 manifesto lists a range of personal and business tax cuts which it describes as "CRITICAL REFORMS NEEDED IN THE FIRST 100 DAYS"

**Reform manifesto 2024, p. 5-6**

Reform costed these personal tax cuts at £70 billion per year and the business tax cuts at £18 billion per year.

**Reform manifesto 2024, p. 24**

**Richard Tice:** So what we say is, we can announce a direction of travel, but clearly you've got to, you've also got to do what is achievable and also you've got to be cognisant of the bond markets.

**Gerard Warner:** So you wouldn't do them in your first hundred days?

**Richard Tice:** No, you could announce the direction of travel on some of them, you could do some of them literally in the first hundred days. And that's the blend, and you've got to prove the saving.

**Daily Telegraph, 21 May 2025**

## What Labour is doing

**Labour is turning the page on economic chaos. Every decision we make in government is guided by our commitment to strong fiscal rules. The UK was the fastest growing economy in the G7 in the first quarter of 2025.**

**Interest rates have been cut five times, easing pressure on mortgages and borrowing for millions. Wages have risen more in ten months than in ten years under the Conservatives, and hundreds of thousands of new jobs have been created.**

# ONLINE SAFETY

## REFORM'S POLICY

**Scrap the Online Safety Act  
and replace it with**



### What Reform is saying:

*"We will repeal this Act as one of the first things a Reform government does."*

**Zia Yusuf, Reform press conference, 28 July 2025**

*"Can I stand here and say that we have a perfect answer for you right now? No."*

**Nigel Farage, Reform press conference, 28 July 2025**

*"There needs to be a tech answer. I don't know what it is, but we need to try to find it."*

**Nigel Farage, LBC, 31 July 2025**

## What Labour is doing

**Labour supports the Online Safety Act, which protects children and adults online, making social media companies and search services more responsible for their users' safety on their platforms.**

**The Strongest protections in the Act have been designed for children. Platforms will be required to prevent children from accessing harmful and age-inappropriate content, such as material on suicide, self-harm, eating disorders and pornography, 90 people have been convicted of offences under the Online Safety Act since it came into force, with at least 22 receiving custodial sentences.**

# DIGITAL ID

## REFORM'S POLICY

**Digital ID won't work. Or it will.  
Don't introduce it. Or do.**



### What Reform is saying:

*"I would not trust this government with digital ID. I have to say I didn't particularly enjoy the vaccine passport phase that we lived through. And as for the argument, oh, it'll stop crime, it'll stop illegal immigration, it'll stop illegal working. Well, I don't think digital ID will stop teenage girls being raped. I don't think digital ID will stop the drugs gangs. I don't think digital ID will stop illegal working. Frankly, what it's more likely to do is to impinge upon the law-abiding majority."*

**Nigel Farage, Reform press conference, 4 August 2025**

*"A Reform government will create a cutting edge enforcement data centre to relentlessly identify and detain all illegal migrants in the UK. Using powers granted by the new legislation, it will automatically share data between the Home Office, NHS, HMRC, DVLA, banks and the police. It will power bulk warrants, including mandatory biometric capture during any police encounter. Each power addresses a failure mode observed over the last decade - for example, banks and GP surgeries unaware of a customer's status, or overstayers slipping through because a warrant covered only a single property."*

**Reform policy paper, Operation Restore Justice, 27 August 2025**

## What Labour is doing

**The Labour Government is scaling up the rollout of eVisas so they can be used as a way of having a digital record of someone's ability to work and enter this country lawfully, as we end the false promise of illegal jobs used to sell spaces on small boats. At the same time we are mandating right to work checks for gig economy employers and deploying a massive surge in illegal working raids and arrests - up 50% under this government.**

# PRISONS

## REFORM'S POLICY

**Send some of Britain's most violent criminals to El Salvador... or maybe not El Salvador...**



### What Reform is saying:

*"So, if we can send some of our worst violent criminals overseas to serve their terms, then yes. And if that means that Ian Huntley goes to El Salvador, well, our attitude is: so be it. So we're serious about it"*

**Nigel Farage, Reform press conference, 21 July 2025**

*"El Salvador may be a quite extreme example, but the idea that we could send prisoners to Kosovo, to Estonia and everything else is a very, very serious proposal."*

**Nigel Farage, Reform press conference, 21 July 2025**

## What Labour is doing

**The Conservatives left the prisons service on the point of collapse, adding fewer than 500 cells to the prison estate over 14 years. The Labour Government has already opened 2,500 new prison places, and has committed to building four new prisons over the next seven years. This includes £2.3 billion towards prison builds over the next two years, with a target to open up 14,000 places by 2031.**

# WATER INDUSTRY

## REFORM'S POLICY

**Bring 50% of the water industry into public ownership at a cost of**



### What Reform is saying:

*"Launch a new model that brings 50% of each utility into public ownership"*

**Reform manifesto 2024, p. 17**

**Laura Kuenssberg:** Your policy, Reform's plan, is to take over half the water industry, and what I'm asking you is how much of our viewers' money you would be prepared to spend on that, because the credible estimate is that it would be about 50 billion?

**Nigel Farage:** Well, I think it would be a lot less than that if you strike the right deal.

**Laura Kuenssberg:** So how much?

**Nigel Farage:** I don't know, I haven't sat in the negotiations, but a completely different mindset is needed.

**BBC, Sunday with Laura Kuenssberg, 20 July 2025**

## What Labour is doing

**We've started the biggest overhaul of the water sector in a generation to clean up our rivers, lakes and seas. Labour will cut sewage pollution in half by 2030, as well as abolish Ofwat to establish a single, powerful regulator to prevent harmful water pollution and protect families from bill hikes.**

**And we've banned unfair bonuses for six water companies with immediate effect, to stop water company executives being rewarded for pollution.**

# CLEAN ENERGY INVESTMENT

## REFORM'S POLICY

**Strike down contracts for clean energy investment.  
Or maybe not.**



### What Reform is saying:

*"We intend to win the next election, and if elected - or if we hold the balance of power - we will immediately reassess all Net Zero-related commitments. We will prioritise cost, reliability and security of supply over spurious decarbonisation targets, and as a first step, we will seek to strike down all contracts signed under AR7. Should you choose to participate, you should treat any long-term revenue streams as politically and commercially unsafe."*

**Richard Tice, 16 July 2025**

**Richard Tice:** The existing contracts that exist up until now that have been signed and comply with their conditions, one has to respect that... We are saying if there's anything that you require, any form of variation, then you can assume that that will not be granted. So you bid on that basis. You bid at your peril.

**Evan Davis:** That is a very, very important qualification, though. So you're not saying you invest expecting this price and you won't get it. You're saying, if ever you need to come back and talk about some variation, we will be as harsh as we possibly can be with you. We're not going to be kind of compliant. That's the political risk. So it's not you're going to renege on contracts...

**Richard Tice:** Yeah and that's the point.

**BBC Radio 4 PM, 17 July 2025**

## What Labour is doing

**Labour is backing our clean energy industry and jobs with the most significant investment in homegrown clean power in Britain's history.**

**This includes building the Sizewell C nuclear plant which will help to create 10,000 jobs, approving enough clean energy projects to power the equivalent of 2 million homes, and creating two first-of-a-kind carbon capture and storage clusters in Teesside and the North West.**

# FRACKING

## REFORM'S POLICY

It's time to drill, baby, drill. Just... not round here.



### What Reform is saying:

*"We've got potentially hundreds of billions of energy treasure in the form of shale gas. It's grossly financially negligent to a criminal degree to leave that value underground and not to extract it."*

**Richard Tice, BBC, 25 August 2025**

*"As Cllr Joshua Roberts has stated previously, the conditions in the Fylde Coast are not conducive to fracking, and there are no plans for it to take place here. While Reform UK does support fracking on a case-by-case basis, any activity is expected to be more likely in the East of England rather than the Northwest."*

**Reform-led Lancashire County Council press release, 26 August 2025**

### What Labour is doing

**Labour is investing in homegrown clean energy to end our dependence on fossil fuel markets and create the good jobs of the future. We lifted the ban on onshore wind within 72 hours of taking office, and we will ban fracking for good.**

## REFORM'S POLICY

**Open the Port Talbot blast furnaces. Although that might be very difficult. Nothing's impossible. That's impossible.**



### What Reform is saying:

*"Labour closed Wales' only primary steel making furnaces, we want to open them in the long run."*

**Nigel Farage, WalesOnline, 8 June 2025**

*"Once a blast furnace has been closed down, to actually reopen that particular blast furnace is very, very difficult. Nothing's impossible, but it might be difficult. It might be easier to build a new one. Could a Welsh government, Welsh devolved government, do it on its own? It would need some help from national government, too."*

**Nigel Farage, Reform press conference, 9 June 2025**

*'I haven't for a moment suggested...that the existing furnaces can be redone. That's impossible'.*

**Nigel Farage, BBC Wales, 9 June 2025**

## What Labour is doing

**Labour is backing British steel and has taken decisive action to support workers in our steel industry. We secured a better deal for Port Talbot workers, recalled Parliament to discuss plans for Scunthorpe, and launched a new Steel Council to shape a dedicated steel strategy – backed by up to £2.5 billion from the National Wealth Fund.**

# COAL MINING

## REFORM'S POLICY

**Bring back coal mining. How? What kind? Where? When?**



### What Reform is saying:

*“Our ambition is to reindustrialise Wales. Our belief is that we should make our own steel. Our belief is - for what uses coal still has - we should use our own coal. I’m not saying let’s open up all the pits, what I am saying is there are specific types of coal for certain uses that we still need in this country and we need for the blast furnaces here that we should produce ourselves.”*

**Nigel Farage, ITV News, 9 June 2025**

*“There are still uses for coal. They are not the mass usages that we used to have years ago, but there are still usages. And if that’s the case, we should produce our own. Where would they be sited? To be honest, it depends on geology more than anything else. I mean, that’s the honest answer. It depends on that more than anything else.”*

**Nigel Farage, Reform press conference, 9 June 2025**

### What Labour is doing

**We owe generations of coal workers across the country a debt of gratitude for their hard work and service.**

**The era of coal might be ending, but a new age of good energy jobs for our country is just beginning, through Great British Energy – a new, publicly owned company which will own, manage and operate clean power projects up and down the country. In Wales, Labour is delivering £143 million to keep coal tips maintained and safe - adding to the millions already injected by the Welsh Labour Government.**

# CLIMATE CHANGE

## REFORM'S POLICY

**Does climate change exist? Depends on who in Reform you ask.**



### What Reform is saying:

*"Do I believe that climate change exists? No."*

**Andrea Jenkyns, Times Radio, 17 July 2025**

**Laura Kuenssberg:** Do you believe in man-made climate change?

**Nigel Farage:** Do I believe there's climate change? Yes. Does man have an influence? Impossible to think we haven't got some influence, as to what proportion it is I've no idea.

**BBC, Sunday with Laura Kuenssberg, 20 July 2025**

## What Labour is doing

The climate and nature crisis is the greatest long-term challenge that we face. The clean energy transition represents a huge opportunity to generate growth, tackle the cost of living crisis and make Britain energy independent once again.

Our mission to deliver clean power by 2030 will bring energy security, protect billpayers, create good jobs, and help to protect future generations from the cost of climate breakdown.

## REFORM'S POLICY

Scrap the deal with the EU. Replace it. What with?



### What Reform is saying:

*"We'd tell the EU that any agreements are no longer legally binding on the UK, because a general election has said so."*

**Nigel Farage, Daily Telegraph, 16 May 2025**

**Nigel Farage:** We are a global trading nation, the European Union is diminishing every single year. And I keep hearing this stuff about what an important trading market it is. Every single year that goes by, it becomes smaller and smaller.

**Emma Barnett:** What does being friendly mean? We're not mates in a pub. What does being friendly mean, can you commit to something?

**Nigel Farage:** We can improve the deal.

**Emma Barnett:** How?

**Nigel Farage:** By saying to them, we can make this easier for both of us, we can go back through, and we're up for a renegotiation anyway. My fear is that we tie ourselves to EU law, that we start to accept single market regulations, and there are many indications from this government that that's what they intend...

**Emma Barnett:** But you're still not saying what.

**BBC Radio 4 Today, 4 February 2025**

## What Labour is doing

**Labour is building new relationships that benefit the UK. Our new trade deals with the EU, India and the USA will boost our economy by £13.8 billion a year, unlocking investment in British industries, opening markets for British businesses, and creating more well paid, secure jobs for British workers.**

**Our new strategic partnership with the EU puts Britain back on the front foot - cutting costs for working people, boosting trade for UK businesses, and strengthening our borders.**

# BURQA BAN

## REFORM'S POLICY

**Ban the burqa. Or don't ban the burqa. Depends on who in Reform you ask.**



### What Reform is saying:

*"Given the Prime Minister's desire to strengthen strategic alignment with our European neighbours, will he – in the interests of public safety – follow the lead of France, Denmark, Belgium and others, and ban the burqa?"*

**Sarah Pochin, Prime Minister's Questions, 4 June 2025**

*"Ban the burqa? Yes we should. No one should be allowed to hide their identity in public."*

**Lee Anderson, X, 4 June 2025**

*"I do think it's dumb for a party to ask the PM if they would do something the party itself wouldn't do".*

**Zia Yusuf, X, quoted by BBC, 5 June 2025**

*"This is about priorities. You know, I don't like to see the burka. I think [Dr David Bull]... I think he's probably right. It probably is anti-British in the sense that [...] I don't know if they're being forced to cover up. That is not a good and positive thing, but is it absolutely front and centre of what we're going to campaign for? Not given the other major crises we face."*

**Nigel Farage, Daily Telegraph, 10 June 2025**

## What Labour is doing

**This Labour Government does not support banning the burqa.**

# LEADERSHIP IN WALES AND SCOTLAND

## REFORM'S POLICY

**With elections in just eight months time, who are Reform's candidates to be First Minister of Wales and First Minister of Scotland?**



### What Reform is saying:

*"Now, in terms of, you know, who is our prospective candidate to be First Minister [of Wales], this party is evolving. It is a work in progress. We are building steadily, well actually some might say rapidly, as we go. Figures will emerge over the course of the next few months who through merit will no doubt be in a position where they can qualify to be our lead member. We are not at that point of evolution just yet."*

**Nigel Farage, Reform press conference, 9 June 2025**

*"We will of course have a leader of our group, you know, who will go in as leader of the group and be a potential you know, First Minister [of Scotland]. So, yes, of course. But, hey, you know what? As I've explained before, and I did a similar thing when I was in Aberdeen the other day, you know, we are a work in progress."*

**Nigel Farage, Reform press conference, 27 August 2025**

## What Labour is doing

**Eluned Morgan is the Leader of Welsh Labour and First Minister of Wales. She has worked with the UK Labour Government to deliver a record £23 billion for Wales – the largest real terms settlement since devolution began, and a massive funding boost to support the Welsh NHS.**

**Anas Sarwar is the Leader of Scottish Labour and Labour's candidate to be First Minister of Scotland. In 2026, Scotland can choose change at the ballot box after 18 years of SNP failure – an opportunity for Scotland to get a government that is on the side of the people of Scotland.**

# 20 QUESTIONS FOR REFORM

**1. Where would Reform put the detention centres it wants to use to house asylum seekers?**

**2. Would Reform detain and deport women and children who seek asylum in the UK?**

**3. What incentives would Reform provide to countries like Iran to encourage them to accept migrants it wants to deport from the UK?**

**4. What would Reform's cap on essential worker visas be?**

**5. How does Reform think the NHS should be funded?**

**6. Which taxes would Reform cut in its first 100 days?**

**7. What would Reform replace the Online Safety Act with?**

**8. Does Reform want to introduce a form of digital ID to help tackle illegal migration, or not?**

**9. Would Reform send violent criminals to El Salvador, or not?**

**10. What is Reform's estimate for the cost of bringing 50% of the water industry into public ownership?**

**11. Would Reform strike down legal contracts for clean energy investment, or not?**

**12. Would Reform prevent clean energy companies investing in the UK?**

**13. Does Reform support fracking in the North West of England?**

**14. Would Reform reopen blast furnaces at Port Talbot?**

**15. Would Reform reopen any coal mines?**

**16. Is it Reform's position that man-made climate change exists?**

**17. What deal would Reform seek to negotiate with the EU after ripping up the existing one?**

**18. Does Reform want to ban the burqa, or not?**

**19. Who is Reform's candidate to be First Minister of Wales?**

**20. Who is Reform's candidate to be First Minister of Scotland?**





