

Entity: Reform UK (formerly Brexit Party)

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Semantic Summary

The largest right-populist political party in the UK, led by Nigel Farage with Richard Tice as former leader — founded as the Brexit Party in 2019 and rebranded Reform UK. It is the electoral hub of the right-populist ecosystem: a registered party that provides electoral legitimacy to right-populist narratives, platforms figures with far-right connections, and functions as a gateway between mainstream conservatism and far-right politics. Now one of the best-funded parties in Britain, it received a record £12 million from crypto investor Christopher Harborne in 2025–2026, with historical donors including Richard Desmond, Arron Banks and Jeremy Hosking. Investigations by the Mirror, Good Law Project and others found around 80% of its 2025 donations linked to offshore tax havens, and Tice himself holds a Jersey offshore trust. Its overlap with GB News — where Farage presents while leading the party — remains a key open question.

Basic Information

- **Type:** Registered political party
- **Status:** Active
- **Electoral Commission ID:** PP[number needed]
- **Leader:** Nigel Farage
- **Former leader:** Richard Tice (March 2021 - 2024?)
- **Known aliases:** Brexit Party (former name)
- **Founded:** Brexit Party 2019, rebranded Reform UK

Role in Ecosystem

Reform UK is the largest right-populist political party in the UK, currently led by Nigel Farage. It represents the mainstream electoral vehicle for right-wing populist politics, sitting to the right of the Conservatives on immigration, national sovereignty, and cultural issues.

While Reform UK is a registered political party (not a far-right organisation), it:

- Attracts voters and activists from far-right movements
- Provides electoral legitimacy to right-populist narratives
- Employs or platforms figures with far-right connections
- Receives donations from donors who also fund more extreme groups
- Functions as a gateway between mainstream conservatism and far-right politics

Understanding Reform UK's funding is critical because it's where the money flows in the electoral arena, and donor overlap with more extreme groups reveals the broader ecosystem.

Money IN (Funding Received)

Date	From	Amount	Type	Confidence	Source
2025 Q3	Christopher Harborne	£9,000,000	Political donation	CONFIRMED	Electoral Commission via BBC
2026-03	Christopher Harborne	£3,000,000	Political donation	CONFIRMED	Electoral Commission via Transparency International
2025 total	Christopher Harborne	£12,000,000	Political donations (year total)	CONFIRMED	BBC Dec 2026
2025 Q3	Various donors	£10,526,846	Total quarter donations	CONFIRMED	Electoral Commission
Historical	Richard Desmond	£1,000,000+	Political donations	REPORTED	Media reports
Historical	Arron Banks	Unknown	Political donations	REPORTED	Electoral Commission
Historical	Jeremy Hosking	Unknown	Political donations	REPORTED	Electoral Commission
Ongoing	Public funds	Unknown	Short/Cranborne grants	CONFIRMED	Electoral Commission

Narrative: Reform UK has become one of the best-funded parties in the UK, largely due to Christopher Harborne's record-breaking £12m in 2025-2026. The party reported £10.5m in donations in Q3 2025 alone, more than any other party that quarter.

Key pattern: Crypto wealth (Harborne/Tether) funding right-populist politics. This represents a new funding model that bypasses traditional business wealth.

Historical donors: Richard Desmond (former Express owner), Arron Banks (Leave.EU), Jeremy Hosking (Marathon Asset Management) - all major Brexit-era donors.

Money OUT (Funding Given)

Date	To	Amount	Type	Confidence	Source
Ongoing	Party operations	Significant	Campaign costs, staff	CONFIRMED	Electoral Commission spending returns
Ongoing	Candidates	Campaign expenses	Electoral spending	CONFIRMED	Electoral Commission
Unknown	GB News (via Farage employment?)	Unknown	Salary/fees	SPECULATIVE	Inference from Farage's dual role

Narrative: Reform UK spends on electoral campaigns, party operations, and staff. As a registered party, spending is declared to the Electoral Commission.

Key question: Is there any financial overlap between Reform UK and GB News? Farage presents on GB News while leading Reform UK - are there shared resources, staff, or financial arrangements?

Companies / Entities Controlled

Company Name	Number	Role	Status	Notes
Reform UK	PP[number]	Political party	Active	Electoral Commission registration
Brexit Party (former)	PP[number]	Former name	Rebranded	Electoral Commission

Action needed: Electoral Commission party registration search for full details

Known Associations

Person/Org	Relationship	Evidence
Christopher Harborne	Major donor (£12m in 2025-26)	Electoral Commission

Person/Org	Relationship	Evidence
Richard Desmond	Former major donor	Media reports
Arron Banks	Former donor (Brexit Party era)	Electoral Commission
Jeremy Hosking	Donor	Electoral Commission
GB News	Platform for leader (Farage)	Public knowledge
Nigel Farage	Leader	Public knowledge
Richard Tice	Former leader	Public knowledge

Electoral Performance & Public Funding

Electoral Commission transparency: As a registered party with MPs, Reform UK qualifies for:

- **Short Money:** Opposition party funding in House of Commons
- **Cranborne Money:** Opposition party funding in House of Lords
- **Policy development grants:** Electoral Commission funding

These public funds are declared in Electoral Commission quarterly returns.

Legal / Regulatory History

Date	Case/Action	Outcome	Source
Various	Electoral Commission compliance	Standard regulation	Electoral Commission
Brexit Party era	Various investigations	See Arron Banks file	Electoral Commission

Media Coverage

Date	Outlet	Headline	Key Claims	URL
2025-12	BBC News	"Crypto investor Christopher Harborne donates record £9m to Reform UK"	Record-breaking donation	https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c30j8r034y8o

Date	Outlet	Headline	Key Claims	URL
2025-12	Transparency International UK	Response to Electoral Commission data	Q3 2025 donation totals	https://www.transparency.org.uk/news/transparency-international-uk-responds-latest-electoral-commission-donation-data
2025 Q3	Electoral Commission	Political parties accept over £24m in donations in third quarter of 2025	Official quarterly data	https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/media-centre/political-parties-accept-over-ps24m-donations-third-quarter-2025

Offshore Donations (Key Finding — 2024-2026)

80% of Reform UK's £15m in 2025 donations linked to offshore tax havens (Mirror/Good Law Project, Sept 2024; Babelfish/Mirror, May 2026).

Total since 2010: £45M from 362 donations over £1K (DonationWatch) **Total since 2019:** 74% (£16.6m+) linked to offshore interests

Key Offshore-Linked Donors

Donor	Amount	Offshore Connection	Source
Christopher Harborne	£12m (2025-26)	Tether (El Salvador)	Electoral Commission
Jeremy Hosking	£2.4m+	Marathon via MAM Investments (Jersey)	Electoral Commission, Mirror
Andrew Perloff / Panther Securities	£20k + £25k	Portnard Ltd (Jersey parent)	Good Law Project
Evans family / Evan Management Ltd	£200,000	Jersey parent, Monaco residents	Mirror
Margaret Hepburn / Hepburn Bio Care	£24,000	Listed as Monaco resident	Mirror
Tangerine Holdings Ltd	£50,000	Rendell (Isle of Man parent)	Good Law Project

Richard Tice Offshore Trust

- Reform UK deputy leader has a **Jersey offshore trust** (Tax Research UK, Aug 2024)
- Set up "more than three decades ago"
- Raises questions about party leadership's own offshore connections

Key Investigation Sources

- **Mirror/Good Law Project** (Sept 2024): "The offshore bonanza powering Reform's far-right rhetoric"
- **Babelfish** (2026): "80% of Reform Cash Linked to Tax Havens"
- **Mirror** (May 2026): "Reform UK handed almost £15m by offshore millionaires"
- **DonationWatch**: £45M total since 2010

Research Notes

Key questions:

- **Full donor list**: Who else besides Harborne is funding Reform UK at scale? Need complete Electoral Commission search.
- **GB News overlap**: Is there any financial relationship between Reform UK and GB News? Shared staff, resources, funding?
- **Donor overlap**: Which Reform UK donors also fund more explicitly far-right groups (Heritage Party, street movements)?
- **Crypto donors**: Are there other crypto-wealthy donors beyond Harborne?
- **US connections**: Any US donors or connections to US right-wing funding networks?
- **Spending patterns**: What does Reform UK spend its money on? Campaign ads, staff, media operations?
- **Offshore investigation**: Full list of all 18 donors linked to offshore (Babelfish claim)? Companies House analysis of each?

Leads to follow:

- Complete Electoral Commission donation search for Reform UK (2019-2026)
- Electoral Commission spending returns (what's the money spent on?)
- Cross-reference Reform UK donors with Heritage Party, UKIP, and far-right groups
- Investigate GB News financial relationship with Farage/Reform UK
- Track crypto-wealthy donors in UK politics beyond Harborne
- Check US connections (TPUSA, Heritage Foundation, etc.)

Red flags:

- Crypto wealth funding populist politics (less transparent than traditional business)
- Potential GB News/Reform UK financial overlap
- Donor overlap with more extreme groups
- Scale of Harborne donations creates dependency on single donor

Significance: Reform UK is the electoral hub of the right-populist ecosystem. Following its money reveals:

1. The donor pipeline from Brexit Party to Reform UK
2. New crypto-wealth funding models
3. Overlap between electoral politics and media operations (GB News)
4. Gateway between mainstream and far-right politics

Last Updated

- **Date:** 2026-06-14
- **Researcher:** Initial data collection session
- **Next actions:**
 - Complete Electoral Commission donation database search (2019-2026)
 - Spending returns analysis
 - Cross-reference donors with other right-wing/far-right entities
 - GB News financial relationship investigation
 - US connections mapping

Tags

- anti-immigration
- arron-banks
- brexit
- christopher-harborne
- gb-news
- jeremy-hosking
- nigel-farage
- organisation
- reform-uk
- richard-desmond
- richard-tice
- sovereignty

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