Reform UK — Overview of Donor Structure & Patterns

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Semantic Summary

This overview documents Reform UK's donor structure as of mid-2026: total 2025 donations of approximately £19 million in the party's biggest fundraising year, with 70-75% of all income since 2019 concentrated in just three individuals — Christopher Harborne, Richard Tice, and Jeremy Hosking. Harborne alone contributed approximately £22 million total, including a single £9 million donation in 2025 that was the largest political donation by a living person in British history. Approximately 80% of Reform donors previously donated to the Conservative Party, with key figures including Nick Candy, Hosking, and Harborne reflecting an "ex-Tory money under a new flag" pattern. An estimated 92% of 2019-2024 donations came from individuals or companies with fossil fuel or climate-sceptic links. Five donor profile types are identified: crypto/fintech entrepreneurs (Harborne, Delo, Yusuf), property developers (Candy, Tice), City investment figures (Hosking), aristocratic/establishment (Cottrell), and ex-Tory switching donors. Multiple Reform policies align directly with donor interests: capital gains tax cuts on crypto, a Strategic Bitcoin Reserve, scrapping Net Zero, and North Sea oil expansion. Transparency issues include multiple Electoral Commission inquiries, use of Polish firm Radom to convert crypto donations, and Farage's undisclosed £5 million Harborne gift remaining under investigation by both the Parliamentary Commissioner and Electoral Commission as of May 2026.

Key Facts

- **Total donations (2025):** ~£19m+ — Reform's biggest ever fundraising year
- **Concentration:** 70-75% of all income since 2019 has come from just three individuals: **Christopher Harborne**, **Richard Tice**, and **Jeremy Hosking**
- **Harborne dominance:** Around £22m+ total; his single £9m donation in 2025 was the largest political donation by a living person in British history

- **Ex-Tory flow:** Approximately 80% of Reform UK's donors previously donated to the Conservative Party. Key examples: Nick Candy, Jeremy Hosking, Christopher Harborne (previously gave to Boris Johnson), and various others
- **Fossil fuel links:** Between 2019-2024, an estimated 92% of Reform's donations came from individuals or companies with links to fossil fuels or climate-science scepticism (~£2.3m)

Donor Profile Types

1. **Crypto/Fintech entrepreneurs** — Harborne (Tether), Delo (BitMEX), Yusuf (SaaS/tech)
2. **Property developers** — Candy, Tice
3. **City/investment figures** — Hosking
4. **Aristocratic/establishment** — Cottrell family
5. **Ex-Tory donors switching parties** — This is the largest category by count

Policy-Donation Links Under Scrutiny

Several Reform policies align with donor interests:

- **CGT cut on crypto (24% → 10%)** — directly benefits Harborne and Delo
- **Strategic Bitcoin Reserve** — proposed by Farage, benefits crypto donors
- **Accepting crypto donations** — uniquely among major UK parties
- **Scrapping Net Zero** — benefits fossil fuel-linked donors
- **North Sea oil and gas expansion** — benefits the same donor base

Transparency Issues

- Reform UK has faced more Electoral Commission inquiries than other major parties on donor rules
- Use of Polish firm Radom to convert crypto to cash raised money-laundering questions
- The party was the only one in Parliament accepting crypto donations before the 2026 government ban
- Farage's undisclosed £5m gift from Harborne remains under investigation by both the Parliamentary Commissioner and the Electoral Commission (as of May 2026)

Known Associations

Auto-generated from cross-references in this archive.

- **Reform UK** — 3 mentions · tagged
- **Richard Tice** — 2 mentions · tagged
- **Nigel Farage** — tagged

Tags

- christopher-harborne
- conservative
- donor
- jeremy-hosking
- nigel-farage
- organisation
- reform-uk
- richard-tice
- zia-yusuf

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