Restore Britain

Restore Britain

Semantic Summary

Far-right political party in the United Kingdom led by **Rupert Lowe**, the independent MP for Great Yarmouth (formerly Reform UK). Launched as a pressure group on 30 June 2025 and registered as a political party on 13 February 2026, Restore Britain positions itself as a more hardline ethno-nationalist alternative to Reform UK, pulling from the same voter base while openly courting support from neo-Nazi and fascist networks. Its core platform revolves around mass deportation, net-negative immigration, a referendum on reinstating the death penalty, and aggressive cultural conservatism. The party has been endorsed by Elon Musk on X and described by Hope not Hate as "part of a broader re-racialisation of the British far right". With 130,000 members and 32 councillors as of June 2026, it represents the most significant far-right electoral vehicle since the heyday of the BNP — and a direct threat to Reform UK's right flank.

Overview

Field	Details
Full Name	Restore Britain
Classification	Tier 3 — Fringe Party (with significant growth trajectory)
Status	Active (registered political party)
Founded	30 June 2025 (pressure group); 13 February 2026 (political party)
Leader	Rupert Lowe MP
Spokesperson	Charlie Downes
Split from	Reform UK
Political Position	Far-right / Ethno-nationalist
Ideology	Ethno-nationalism, anti-immigration, nativism, cultural conservatism, Euroscepticism
Headquarters	Millennium House, Gapton Hall Road, Great Yarmouth, NR31 0NL

Field	Details
Membership (June 2026)	130,000
Electoral Performance	1 MP (Rupert Lowe), 32 councillors
Website	restorebritain.org.uk

Background

Rupert Lowe was elected as one of Reform UK's five MPs at the 2024 general election, representing Great Yarmouth. On 7 March 2025, Reform suspended him and removed the whip following allegations of threatening behaviour towards party chairman Zia Yusuf, plus other alleged incidents of bullying and derogatory remarks about women. The Metropolitan Police received a file but Lowe and his staff denied all allegations, describing them as false and vexatious.

On 25 March 2025, leaked WhatsApp messages showed Nigel Farage describing Lowe's behaviour as both "disgusting" and "contemptible". Lowe called the process a "malicious witch hunt" motivated by his decision to challenge the party leadership on immigration policy.

History

Launch

On 30 June 2025, Lowe launched Restore as a political organisation "for those who believe that we need to fundamentally change the way Britain is governed." It launched simultaneously with Advance UK (Ben Habib's party), marking a fragmentation of the post-Reform right. Susan Hall (then leader of the Conservative group on the London Assembly) and Gavin Williamson joined the initial advisory board.

Lowe raised approximately £600,000 through crowdfunding for an independent inquiry into child sexual exploitation by grooming gangs — an initiative that attracted Conservative MPs Nick Timothy and Esther McVey.

On 13 February 2026, Lowe announced Restore would become a registered political party, presenting it as an umbrella organisation for local grassroots groups. Following this, Hall and Williamson left.

Growth

By February 2026, Restore had picked up defections from Reform councillors across Kent, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, and North Northamptonshire. As of June 2026, it claims 130,000

members and holds 32 councillors.

In June 2026, Ben Habib wound up Advance UK and threw his support behind Restore Britain — though he demanded the fascist faction around Steve Laws be expelled, highlighting the internal tension between civic nationalists and ethno-nationalists.

Platform and Ideology

Restore Britain is classified as far-right and openly ethno-nationalist by political scientists and watchdog groups. Its key policies include:

- **Immigration**: Large-scale deportation of all people without legal status; net-negative immigration; ending Indefinite Leave to Remain
- **Death penalty**: Referendum on reinstating capital punishment
- **BBC**: Withdraw public funding
- **Religious dress**: Ban the burqa and niqab
- **Self-defence**: Legalise possession of pepper spray; expand "reasonable force" in defence of the home
- **Culture**: Stop "wokery"; ban kosher and halal slaughter
- **Grooming gangs**: Independent inquiry funded via crowdfunding

Lowe has stated indifference to Restore being described as far-right or racist, and has said the party "will look at the facts, and then discriminate."

Far-Right Support

According to Hope not Hate and The Times (April 2026), "prominent neo-fascist leaders" have backed the party, including:

- The leadership of **Patriotic Alternative** (British neo-Nazis)
- Former officials of the **British Democratic Party**, **British National Party**, and **For Britain**
- **Tommy Robinson** — former EDL leader — has publicly backed Restore
- **Steve Laws** — ethno-nationalist and self-proclaimed "proud" racist — urged his followers to become candidates and organisers inside Restore to "create a stronghold"
- **Britain First** agreed to defer to Restore to avoid fielding rival candidates
- **Elon Musk** has endorsed the party on X and amplified its rhetoric

The Financial Times noted that X has been "instrumental in helping the party gain reach", with Lowe and the party having a combined reach of over one million followers as of May 2026.

Electoral Prospects

Restore Britain is widely seen as a genuine electoral threat to Reform UK's right flank. Political scientists characterise it as pulling Reform further right while splitting the insurgent right-wing vote. The i Paper described it as "a genuine threat" to Farage, while Al Jazeera reported that former Reform supporters had "deserted the party in large numbers in favour of Restore."

Tim Bale (political scientist) theorised that the party's impact will depend largely on how Farage reacts — whether he distinguishes himself from Restore's extremism or moves further right to compete.

Key Concerns

- **Ethno-nationalist capture**: Watchdog groups warn that Restore is being systematically infiltrated by fascist and neo-Nazi organisers
- **Internal factionalism**: Tension between civic nationalist conservatives and open ethno-nationalists — the same fault line that destroyed the BNP's electoral credibility
- **Donor transparency**: Unlike Reform UK (Electoral Commission-registered with declared donations), Restore's funding structure is opaque

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Known Associations

Auto-generated from cross-references in this archive.

- **Reform UK** — split from; key rival
- **Nigel Farage** — personal feud; competitor for right-wing vote
- **Rupert Lowe** — leader and founder
- **Ben Habib — Advance UK Leader, Former Reform UK Deputy Leader** — wound up Advance UK to support Restore
- **Tommy Robinson** — has publicly backed the party
- **Patriotic Alternative** — neo-Nazi leadership has endorsed Restore
- **Steve Laws** — ethno-nationalist organiser inside the party
- **Britain First** — agreed to defer candidates to Restore
- **Elon Musk** — endorsed and amplified on X
- **Charlie Downes** — party spokesperson

Tags

- anti-immigration
- ben-habib
- brexit
- charlie-downes
- elon-musk
- ethno-nationalist
- far-right
- grooming-gangs
- nationalist
- nigel-farage
- organisation
- patriotic-alternative
- reform-uk
- restore-britain
- rupert-lowe
- steve-laws
- tommy-robinson

Sources

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- Searchlight Magazine: "Far-right merger collapses as Ben Habib slams 'dictator' Lowe" (Feb 2026)
- Searchlight Magazine: "Ben Habib throws support behind Restore Britain — but wants fascist faction thrown out" (Jun 2026)
- Hope not Hate: Restore Britain tracking and analysis
- The Times: "Prominent neo-fascist leaders back Restore Britain" (Apr 2026)
- Financial Times: Restore Britain coverage (May 2026)
- Restore Britain website: restorebritain.org.uk
- Restore Britain policies: restore.vote
- Electoral Commission registration (Mar 2026)

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