Reform UK Headlines — 05 November 2026

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NewsNow topic-hub sweep (UK/Politics/Reform+UK) — 24 new items processed since the 4 Nov run. Sources: The Independent, Daily Mail, UK Defence Journal, BBC, Daily Echo, OnTheWight, The Herald, Evening Standard, The National, Nation.Cymru, LocalGov, Gazette News, Diss Express, Oldham Chronicle, Northern Echo, Yorkshire Live (LDRS), Birmingham Live, The New World, North West Bylines.

? Top Story: Farage names Reform's first Armed Forces spokesman — ex-RAF Wing Commander Angus MacIntyre

Reform UK unveils **Wing Commander Angus MacIntyre** today (5 Nov) as its first armed forces spokesman — an appointment explicitly designed to rebuff claims the party is soft on defence and that Nigel Farage is pro-Putin.

Who he is: 40 years' service, joining the British Army in 1986 aged 18 (17th/21st Lancers, then 1st Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, with attachments to the Royal Marines and Parachute Regiment). Deployments included Arctic Norway, Northern Ireland (a six-month tour in Crossmaglen), Brunei, Afghanistan (he was on the body-recovery team for the RAF Nimrod crash near Kandahar that killed 14 personnel), Kuwait, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Iraq and Somalia. Transferred to the RAF Regiment in 1999. Critically, his recent roles include **four years at NATO HQ Brussels focused on UK support to Ukraine** after Russia's 2022 invasion, a year at the Pentagon, UN work with the Somali National Army, and assistant head of Taskforce Spirit (MoD body supporting Ukraine's long-term military capabilities). He **quit the RAF Regiment only last**

week to take the Reform role.

The pitch: Farage — "Angus has more experience than the entire government defence team combined"; Reform points out MacIntyre's 40 years "exceeds the combined 31 years on the Labour benches." MacIntyre: forces down from 330,000 (1986) to 148,000 today — "barely enough to fill two Premier League football stadiums"; Britain spends "£330bn on welfare compared with just £60bn on defence"; equipment for Ukraine delivered in under 8 weeks vs "ten years" for UK procurement; commits to **3% of GDP on defence by 2030, 3.5% by 2035** (funded by welfare cuts); soldiers "should not be paid less than workers in an Amazon warehouse."

The context it responds to: The Independent's analysis this week showed Reform MPs took part in only **30% of the 210 defence debates/questions** since July 2024; Farage appeared in 10 (nine on Chagos). Reform had sought a senior general and failed; retired rear admiral Chris Parry was attached to the role before he was forced out as the party's Hampshire/Solent mayoral candidate. Even now, no sitting Reform MP has been given the defence brief.

⚠ **Internal contradiction flagged:** MacIntyre actively encouraged **women to qualify as RAF commandos** — as chairman of the RAF Commando Association (March 2024) he advocated supporting female applicants through commando training and criticised the RAF's slower progress. That sits awkwardly beside Farage's 2010 remark on women in combat ("What an extraordinarily bizarre idea! I certainly don't think so") and Richard Tice's 2025 mockery of a station commander's bio ("Kept safe & secure by an HR manager... Well done folks"). The Independent also notes the late Ann Widdecombe was preparing a Royal Navy paper she struggled to get published.

?? Latest Developments

Reform vows to 'bar further prosecutions of British soldiers' within 100 days — veterans push back

Writing in the Daily Mail, MacIntyre pledged that **within 100 days of taking office** Reform would "pardon those convicted for simply carrying out orders, terminate ongoing prosecutions and bar further prosecutions of soldiers – save for the explicit consent of the Secretary of State for Defence." The pledge lands as Northern Ireland veterans face further legal enquiries under Labour's Troubles Bill.

Veterans' campaign organisations rejected the wording:

- **Paul Young** (ex-cavalryman, prominent campaigner): "We could not endorse those policies based on those wordings. The Defence Secretary is a politician rather than a legal person." His camp wants a **Supreme Court judge** to decide whether cases proceed on

"new, compelling and extraordinary evidence" — and notes the Defence Secretary "will likely defer to their Attorney General, another political appointee." On pardons: "we have never called for pardons… When someone has committed a crime they should be subjected to the appropriate processes."
- **Philip Ingram** (former army intelligence officer): "Opposition parties promise lots. I don't believe there is a legal mechanism to achieve what they're promising."

Labour's counter-attack: 'Defenceless Plan would wave a white flag'

Defence Readiness Minister **Luke Pollard**: "The fact it's taken Reform nearly 2,000 days to appoint someone to focus on defence is an utter dereliction of duty by Nigel Farage. If Reform got into government, their Defenceless Plan would wave a white flag to our enemies… He's spent years parroting Kremlin talking points and his former Leader in Wales is currently in prison for taking pro-Russian bribes." Labour cites Farage's 2024 "we provoked this war" remark; Reform's 3%-by-2030 pledge (Jenrick, August) now matches both Labour's and the Conservatives' stated targets, with Healey's Budget setting 2030 for 3% and a £298bn four-year Defence Investment Plan.

Unearthed 2022 footage: Farage 'understood' why 'rational' Putin annexed Crimea

First reported by The Times: in a YouTube video ("What does the war in Ukraine mean for Bitcoin?") recorded **days after the full-scale invasion**, Farage said: "I'd always thought Putin to be a rational player… whether we're talking about Georgia… Crimea… the initial push into the Donbas, I understood why he was doing it. He was doing it because they were Russian-speaking communities, who in many ways would rather be part of a greater Russia… I'm not justifying it, I'm explaining it. I didn't for one moment think he would launch an all-out assault on Kyiv." This follows September's unearthed footage of Farage admitting he knew Russians used crypto to dodge Ukraine-war sanctions but invested anyway (crediting sanction-busting Russian investment for a 15% crypto spike). Farage's current line: "I think Putin has lost all rationality and poses a great danger to the world. Ukraine has my full support." **Oleksandr Merezhko**, chair of Ukraine's parliamentary foreign affairs committee: "very disturbing… Farage is not using this argument to invade Ireland just because they speak the English language. It's an absurd argument… If he becomes the prime minister, it doesn't bode well for Ukraine." Reform spokesperson deflection: Farage would back shooting down Russian jets in NATO airspace, using frozen Russian assets, and possibly British troops in a UN peacekeeping force.

Independent analysis: 'Farage pinned his fortunes to Trump – now it's triggered his downfall'

Political editor **David Maddox**'s verdict: hours after Farage proclaimed on GB News "I don't go with the consensus that Trump is going to get smashed", the US midterms delivered the Republicans "catastrophic – and almost unprecedented" defeat, with Democrats taking big majorities in **both** House and Senate and even Kansas and Texas falling. Maddox ties it to Reform's slide (YouGov: mid-30s a year ago → "barely 20 per cent now", two-party Con-vs-Lab politics back): Trump facing possible impeachment hearings and two years mired in legal proceedings means Farage "has lost his own trump card of being the best middle man for the UK and US", while his hardline immigration message finds less of an audience and party scandals plus policy holes leave him "badly exposed domestically". Verdict: "populism… on the ebb", both men's brands "increasingly tarnished" — with the caveat that "both Trump and Farage have made comebacks before."

Holyrood burqa-ban bid voted down — motion branded 'racist' and 'Islamophobic' from the despatch box

Reform MSP **Helen McDade**'s motion (calling on the Scottish Government to consider further restrictions on full-face coverings, naming **only the burqa and niqab** — not balaclavas) was rejected on Wednesday 4 Nov: MSPs passed the SNP's wrecking amendment — "it is not for Parliament to legislate for what women choose to wear" — by **92 to 15, with 8 abstentions**. It was Reform's second attempt after October's members' business debate was cut short.

- **McDade:** coverings already banned in France, Belgium, Denmark, Germany and Italy; masked men in Glasgow causing "fear and mayhem"; "even in circumstances where there is no criminality, many of us may feel fearful, surrounded by people whose faces we cannot see." On campaigning in Gorton and Denton: called the area a **"ghetto"** and said "If I were a lesbian holding my hands with my partner, I would not walk down there at dusk."
- **Thomas Kerr** (Reform deputy leader): reiterated his "fox in the henhouse" pledge — "I don't care if it's a balaclava or a burka, it should be banned… neither of which have a place in modern Scotland."
- **Community Safety Minister Kirsten Oswald (SNP):** "it is none of your business what women wear… this motion… is deliberately divisive, racist, Islamophobic and designed to foster hostility. It is a disgraceful way for an alleged political party to conduct themselves, and they should be ashamed of themselves." Accused Reform of "inciting racial hatred" and "using the protection of women and girls as a cover for racism" — noting their motion never mentions balaclavas, "increasingly worn by far-right activists at anti-migrant protests."
- **Maggie Chapman (Greens):** "narrow-minded", "hatemongering", "racist"; French ban evidence shows wearers face more abuse, veils "forcibly pulled off", spitting — "making women less safe"; no evidence religious face coverings are linked to crime.
- **Lib Dem Yi-pei Chou Turvey:** Reform brought "tripe" to Parliament for publicity. **Labour's Pauline McNeill:** no support for a ban; Reform "stirring up hostility" (though

she backed police powers over face coverings used to intimidate, plus e-bikes). **Tory MSP Stephen Kerr** tabled his own amendments focused on face coverings and crime, without mentioning niqabs or burkas.

Reform MSP Angela Ross accused of 'misleading' Holyrood over productivity claim

In a fiery growth debate, Ross (Edinburgh & Lothians East region) claimed **Scotland has the worst productivity in the UK**. SNP MSP Alex Kerr: ONS figures show Scotland "outperforms every English region except London and the south east… will Ms Ross apologise for talking down Scotland on a false premise?" Ross: "It's pathetic, it's pathetic" (citing ~0.6% average GDP growth per person over two decades). The National's fact-check: latest ONS data does **not** show Scotland worst — it is among the stronger UK nations/regions on productivity *levels*, though recent *growth* is weaker than parts of England and NI.

By-elections piling up

- **Oldham Royton North — 3 December:** replaces Lewis Quigg (resigned 23 Oct, quitting politics entirely after family pressure; he had resigned from Reform *mid-investigation*, the local branch citing "a difference of perspective regarding internal policy matters"). Nominations close 6 Nov. Reform won the ward with **59%** in the 2026 locals (Labour a distant 13.8%; previously Conservative). It's Oldham's second by-election this autumn — Failsworth West votes 12 Nov to replace Mark Wilkinson — and new group leader **Paul Taylor** (the third in weeks) faces both. Britain Elects notes Royton North was one of eight regional wards Reform won in July's Greater Manchester mayoral by-election (Reform 38% v Labour 34.3%).
- **County Durham, Craghead & South Moor — 19 November:** triggered by ex-Reform councillor **Aaron Hillam** resigning after moving out of the county (party line: he was "no longer able to represent his residents to the level he would have liked"). Six candidates stand: Labour, Reform, Con, Lib Dem, Green **and Restore Britain**. Hillam's departure **cut Reform's majority on Durham County Council to one**.

Staffordshire: former Reform group leader Chris Large quits the council

Chris Large (Brewood) resigned from Staffordshire County Council citing a close family bereavement and continuing health issues. He was on the verge of becoming council leader in February — chosen to head the controlling Reform group to replace Ian Cooper (who stood down amid racism allegations) — but quit the leadership **five days after selection**, before formal appointment, citing personal reasons. Large had himself been scrutinised over TikTok use in late 2025 (denied writing/endorsing racist comments; claimed the account was shared). He sat as an independent after leaving Reform. A by-election follows; Reform had won 49 of 62 Staffordshire

seats in 2025. It's yet another turn in the county's leadership carousel (Cooper → Large → Murray → acting leader Hayley Coles).

Calderdale: Reform leader 'angry' over housing plan he voted for as a Labour councillor

Dan Sutherland, Reform leader of Calderdale Council, has written to Housing Secretary Angela Rayner — "We are angry" — seeking powers to revise the Local Plan and withdraw Green Belt allocations, arguing population projections were inflated (2018 ONS figures suggested growth of ~3,800 by 2035, not the 14,075 originally anticipated). **The contradiction:** Sutherland was Labour's cabinet member for planning, housing and environment through much of the plan's creation, spearheaded council communications on it, and was among **26 Labour councillors who approved it in 2023** (despite protests outside Halifax Town Hall) — before defecting to Reform in 2025. The plan targets 14,950 homes (~997/yr); Calderdale Friends of the Earth branded it "disastrous", alleging figures were inflated to justify "exceptional circumstances" for Green Belt development the equivalent of **685 football pitches**. In 2018 Sutherland himself advocated brownfield-first with Green Belt use "well under two per cent."

?? Policy / Controversy

Madgwick fallout: 'Farage must explain what the party knew'

- **Amanda Martin MP (Labour, Portsmouth North)** — the charges are "deeply disturbing and extremely serious": "Cllr Madgwick was a Reform UK councillor **and employed by the party**. Nigel Farage must explain what the party knew, when it knew it and what safeguarding and vetting checks were carried out." (The New World notes Madgwick's LinkedIn listed him as a **senior campaign manager at Reform HQ from July**, overseeing by-election campaigns across London and the south-east.)
- **Charge sheet (unchanged, for the record):** 12 counts of rape, 2 sexual assault, 2 assault by penetration, 8 ABH, 2 controlling/coercive behaviour, 2 making + 1 distributing indecent images of a child, causing/inciting child sexual exploitation, stalking, threats to kill, false imprisonment, theft, criminal damage. Four complainants aged 16–17 at the time; alleged offences 2008–2021 in Portsmouth and Wales. Arrested in Wandsworth on 6 January (Operation Amberstone); bailed to Portsmouth Magistrates' Court, **25 November**. Charges are not proven; Madgwick says he is "unequivocally… innocent", has resigned as Hampshire Reform group leader, sits on as an independent "until I'm cleared", and is deactivating his social media.

- **When the Daily Echo approached Farage with the news on Tuesday, he replied: "I can't tell if you are being genuine or not."**
- On the Isle of Wight, Reform councillor **Debbie Conlin** read the party line into the Yarmouth Town Council minutes: "Reform UK has acted swiftly to suspend the individual's membership and employment... it would be inappropriate to comment further." Madgwick also sits on the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire Authority and the Hampshire & Solent Combined County Authority board; Hampshire CC confirms he remains an elected member under the Local Government Act 1972.

Suffolk deepfake row escalates: complaints over 'predatory' X posts now with the monitoring officer

The BBC reports formal complaints have been filed with Suffolk County Council's monitoring officer over **Chris Hudson**'s social media activity — beyond the sexualised AI image of fellow Reform councillor **June Mummery** (sequined bra, "I saved the Suffolk school nurses!") that cost him the highways cabinet post. One complaint, per the BBC, involves **alleged interactions between Hudson's account and accounts of young women offering adult content** — some now deleted; the LDRS has seen previous posts engaging with now-suspended pornographic accounts. Hudson: "I have no knowledge or relationship with any of these deleted tweets – many people contact me." The **Green group** (main opposition) filed a conduct complaint citing "recent and historical posts" of a "predatory nature": "if Reform wanted to show true leadership they should have removed him from their group." Tory shadow spokesperson **Debbie McCallum** backs removal but wants full investigation and "appropriate further sanctions... serious questions must be asked about why he remains a member of the Reform UK Group." Labour group leader **Martin Cook**: Hadwen thanked Hudson for his service, kept him in the group, "hasn't said that what Cllr Hudson did was wrong." Hadwen confirmed the removal was over the Mummery image, which he "did not condone"; **Patti Mulcahy** takes the cabinet role. Hudson had claimed the image was meant in a "girl power way" and that Mummery was "definitely on board".

Dudley: Ashman apologises over 'goy-slop' posts — Reform refuses to suspend

Cllr **Caley Ashman** apologised for pre-election social media posts, including the antisemitic term "goy-slop" and "You shouldn't let foreigners look after the young or old as they don't care about you." He claims "goy-slop" was used "in the context of internet slang, referring to... poor quality television and film content. It was not intended as a derogatory reference to Jewish people." A letter from **all four opposition group leaders** (Con, Lab, Lib Dem, Black Country Party) called on Reform to suspend him; Reform declined — group leader **Marco Longhi** (ex-Tory MP): Ashman has been "a model councillor... not given me a single reason to doubt his commitment to his residents nor his integrity." (Yesterday's Halesowen/Stourbridge coverage continues: the council's Reform

lead says there is "no reason to doubt" the councillor's post-apology contrition.)

Senedd: white poppies and a car-fire map fail

- **Iain McIntosh MS (Brycheiniog Tawe Nedd)** attacked Plaid Cymru members — photographing **Sarah Rees MS** in the chamber — for wearing **white remembrance poppies**: "The red poppy is not a celebration of war… Surely we can all support peace without turning our backs on a symbol that has united generations." He shared the image to Facebook, where a popular Reform-supporting page branded Rees a "cretin" and commentators left abusive remarks. Context he didn't mention: white poppies date to 1933 (Co-operative Women's Guild — largely women bereaved by WWI), and the **Royal British Legion itself** says it "support[s] the wearing of any colour (including white) or no poppy… NO ONE should be targeted." Rees: the white poppy commemorates all war victims "while… reaffirm[ing] my commitment to strive for future peace for all." Green MS Paul Rock wore both colours.
- **Art Wright MS (Casnewydd Islwyn)** was mocked for urging "my constituents" affected by a road fire to contact him — the fire was on Mountain Road, Bedwas, **outside his constituency** (it sits in Blaenau Gwent Caerffili Rhymni) and involved **one private motor vehicle**. A Senedd source: "Perhaps Reform could use some of its dodgy donations to buy Art Wright a map of his constituency… this just perfectly sums up the calibre of Reform's politicians in the Senedd." Nation.Cymru recalls Wright (born Colwyn Bay, raised Birmingham, 20 years in the Army, a decade abroad, returned to Wales just before the May election) previously urged constituents to sign a **Labour** petition and misfired a supplementary question in plenary.

Birmingham: Reform votes against council's anti-Israel divestment review

Birmingham City Council passed a motion (Better Birmingham Independents' Nosheen Khalid and Jamil Khan) to review procurement/investment/banking links to countries involved in "atrocities" — Israel named alongside Ukraine, Congo, the UAE and Sudan — with cheers and "Free Palestine" from the floor and photos of children killed in Gaza held up; the West Midlands Pension Fund is asked to consider a similar review. **Reform voted against**: group leader **Jex Parkin** said it showed councillors "putting international politics ahead of Birmingham residents", flagged that legislation restricts politically motivated procurement boycotts, has asked the Monitoring Officer to explain the legal advice, and expressed concern for the city's Jewish community. (Jewish campaigner Simone Schehtman and pro-Israel legal groups also condemned the motion — an unusual alignment worth noting.)

Wigan (opinion): 'Do my councillor's words represent me?'

North West Bylines reader-column (Anna Schurer) on Reform Winstanley councillor **Paul Forbes**'s Facebook post ridiculing ministers — Andy Burnham "pretending to be a lesbian", Ed Miliband compared to Wallace (of Wallace & Gromit), Shabana Mahmood "in a mood", and suggesting he'd just call Miatta Fahnbulleh "Pam" to avoid spelling her name — measured against Wigan's code of conduct ("unreasonable or excessive personal attack", conduct "not acceptable in a workplace"). Opinion, flagged as such.

Also logged (headline-level)

- **The New World's digest** ("Rats in a story") argues the US midterms let a run of Reform scandals slip under national coverage; re-details the Harrison redundancy-recording ("What I want to look at now is the women…" — Harrison insists it was "taken completely out of context" and "unequivocally reject[s] any suggestion that staffing decisions are being taken based on gender").
- **Hull Live:** a councillor urged "Spend money on Kingston upon Hull – not Kingston, Jamaica" in the city's slavery-apology debate (body not retrievable via NewsNow redirect; headline-level only).
- **Walsall:** councillors (incl. Reform) opposed "ludicrous" fire station proposals (Birmingham Live, paywall; headline-level).
- **St Helens:** Reform councillors celebrated refusal of a six-person HMO at a former barber shop on Junction Lane (planning, minor).
- **Hertfordshire:** Bishop's Stortford Independent follows up yesterday's failed Reform call-in — the county's Council of Sanctuary designation stands.
- Marginal/false-positive, not counted: edie "Energy Independence Bill to *reform UK energy system*"; Socialist Party student-organising piece; Lib Dem Voice blog on opposition messaging.

? Polling (carried — no new UK poll today)

Pollster	Lab	Con	Ref	Note
YouGov (this week)	—	—	~20	Lowest since Jan 2025; two-party Con–Lab contest back (per Independent/Maddox)

? Quick Summary

#	Story	Status
1	MacIntyre unveiled as first Armed Forces spokesman; NATO/Ukraine CV to rebuff pro-Putin claims	New today
2	100-day pledge: pardon/end/bar soldier prosecutions — veterans' groups reject the mechanism	New today
3	Farage 2022 Crimea "rational Putin" footage unearthed (Times → Independent)	New today
4	Trump midterm wipeout linked to Farage's decline (Maddox analysis)	New today
5	Holyrood burqa motion crushed 92–15; "racist/Islamophobic" from the despatch box	Vote held 4 Nov
6	Angela Ross "misled Parliament" on productivity — fact-checked	New today
7	Madgwick: Amanda Martin MP demands what Farage knew; party-employed campaign manager detail	Escalating
8	Hudson: "predatory" X-post complaints with monitoring officer; cross-party calls to expel from group	Escalating
9	Ashman apologises ("goy-slop" = "internet slang"); Reform refuses suspension	Developing
10	Oldham Royton North by-election 3 Dec; Durham Craghead 19 Nov (Reform majority down to one)	Dates set
11	Chris Large quits Staffs CC — third act in the county's leadership carousel	New today
12	Sutherland "angry" at Calderdale housing plan he approved as Labour cabinet member	New today
13	Senedd: McIntosh's white-poppy attack; Wright's out-of-constituency car fire	New today
14	Birmingham: Reform opposes anti-Israel divestment motion (Parkin)	New today

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? Source Links

- Independent — Farage appoints new armed forces spokesman: https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/farage-reform-armed-forces-angus-macintyre-putin-defence-b3079284.html
- Independent — Farage 'understood' why 'rational' Putin annexed Crimea: https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/nigel-farage-reform-russia-crimea-putin-b3078861.html
- Independent — Farage pinned his fortunes to Trump (Maddox): https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/donald-trump-nigel-farage-midtersm-reform-b3079185.html
- Daily Mail — MacIntyre: Why I quit the military after 40 years (via NewsNow id 1328945900)
- Daily Mail — Reform vows to bar further prosecutions of soldiers (via NewsNow id 1328945865)
- UK Defence Journal — Pollard: Reform 'would wave white flag': https://ukdefencejournal.org.uk/reform-would-wave-white-flag-to-enemies-says-pollard/
- The Herald — Burqa-ban bid rejected by MSPs: https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/26700386.reform-uk-burqa-ban-proposal-rejected-scottish-parliament/
- Evening Standard — Parliament votes against burka ban (92–15): https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/reform-scottish-parliament-france-muslim-b1303609.html
- The National — SNP minister slams 'racist' burqa bid: https://www.thenational.scot/news/26700129.snp-minister-slams-reform-racist-burqa-ban-debate/
- The National — Ross accused of 'misleading' Holyrood: https://www.thenational.scot/news/26699703.reform-msp-accused-misleading-holyrood-fiery-debate/
- Daily Echo — Calls for Farage to explain handling (Martin MP): https://www.dailyecho.co.uk/news/26696910.calls-farage-explain-reforms-handling-councillor/
- Daily Echo — Madgwick statement after charges: https://www.dailyecho.co.uk/news/26696709.reform-councillor-george-madgwick-issues-statement-rape-charges/
- OnTheWight — IoW Reform councillor addresses charges (LDRS): https://onthewight.com/isle-of-wight-reform-councillor-addresses-george-madgwick-rape-charges/
- BBC — Sacked Suffolk councillor's 'predatory' posts investigated: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cw8dz3g0d1e8o
- LocalGov — Hudson sacked over AI image: https://www.localgov.co.uk/Reform-councillor-sacked-over-sexualised-AI-image-of-colleague/65190
- Gazette News — Outrage as councillor axed: https://www.gazette-news.co.uk/news/26697776.suffolk-councillor-removed-sexualised-ai-image/
- Diss Express — Cabinet member removed (LDRS): https://www.dissexpress.co.uk/news/cabinet-member-removed-from-council-over-ai-deepfake-of-coll-9489863/

- BBC — Former Reform group leader quits Staffs CC (Large): https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cqr7ydz51xddo
- Oldham Chronicle — Royton North by-election 3 Dec: https://www.oldham-chronicle.co.uk/news-features/3/politics/473/date-set-for-second-oldham-by-election
- Northern Echo — Craghead & South Moor by-election (LDRS): https://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/26697604.standing-craghead-south-moor-by-election/
- Yorkshire Live/LDRS — Sutherland 'angry' over plan he voted for (recovered via Playwright; canonical on examinerlive.co.uk)
- Birmingham Live — Backlash over anti-Israel vote (recovered via Playwright; canonical on birminghammail.co.uk)
- Nation.Cymru — Reform MS attacks white poppies: https://nation.cymru/news/reform-ms-attacks-plaid-members-for-wearing-white-poppies/
- Nation.Cymru — Reform MS mocked over car fire: https://nation.cymru/news/reform-ms-mocked-for-offering-help-over-car-fire-outside-his-constituency/
- The New World — Reform bad-news digest (paywalled): https://www.thenewworld.co.uk/rats-in-a-story-the-reform-bad-news-stories-you-could-be-forgiven-for-missing-today/
- North West Bylines — Do my councillor's words represent me?: https://northwestbylines.co.uk/politics/do-my-councillors-words-represent-me/
- St Helens Star — Barber shop HMO rejected: https://www.sthelensstar.co.uk/news/26698976.st-helens-barber-shop-hmo-plan-rejected-concerns/

Compiled 05/11/2026 09:00 GMT from NewsNow UK/Politics/Reform+UK (28 latest-feed cards + 145 clustered state records; 24 genuine new items since the 4 Nov run, 22 recovered full-body, 2 headline-level, 3 false-positive/marginal excluded).

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