

UK Headlines — 26 Aug 2026

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? Top Story

- **Burnham to lobby Trump for Patriot missiles for Ukraine.** UK PM Andy Burnham is preparing a trip to New York for next month's UN General Assembly to push President Trump to let Ukraine access US stockpiles of Patriot interceptors, which Kyiv says are running "dangerously low" ahead of winter. European leaders are expected to join the delegation. The Kremlin has accused Burnham of wanting "to continue the war". ([Guardian](#) · [Kyiv Independent](#) · [Ukrinform](#))
 - **Household energy bills to hit three-year high.** Ofgem has announced a 4% rise in the price cap from October — about £60 a year more for a typical household. Comes as the Guardian's Nils Pratley warns Labour's "energy bills crisis is getting worse" and says political honesty is essential. ([BBC](#) · [Guardian](#))
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?? UK Politics

- **Young care leavers dying early a "national tragedy"** — a new review finds those leaving care have a death rate around four times higher than the general population. ([BBC](#))
- **NHS "failing child sex abuse victims in adulthood"** — psychiatrists' report describes decades of mistreatment and mismanagement of adults seeking help later in life. ([BBC](#))
- **Treasury "failed in its duty of care"** — the father of Chloe Moffat, who took her own life last year after being told of allegations about sharing sensitive information (which she denied), criticises the department. ([BBC](#))
- **Calls for GPS monitoring of domestic abuse suspects** after the murder of Stacy Hunter in Renfrewshire; an online petition urges greater use of technology to protect women. ([BBC](#))

- **Polling check:** 7-poll Westminster voting-intention average has Labour on **26%**, Reform UK **25%**, Conservatives **20%** — a two-point lead for Labour, with Reform within a point. ([PollCheck](#))

?? UK Domestic & Crime

- **Second man charged with murder** over the west London (Hounslow) house fire in which a woman died and eight others were injured — eight counts of attempted murder added. ([Sky News](#))
 - **London bus strikes hit 42 routes** — around 1,500 Arriva London North drivers walked out after talks failed, affecting north, east and central London plus Essex. ([Metro](#) · [Time Out](#))
 - **A66 crash investigation:** police video appears to show a chase minutes before the fatal crash near Middlesbrough; the father's house of victim Cole Worthy was rammed and its windows smashed before his son died. ([BBC](#))
 - **Inspectors to assess Hampshire Police** after the murder of student Henry Nowak — officers initially arrested him and placed him in handcuffs as he lay dying. ([BBC](#))
 - **Dozens stranded in Tunisia** after a cancelled Belfast flight; one family says they may have to wait 10 days for another flight home. ([BBC](#))
 - **Libyan cleared after Lockerbie bombing trial dies aged 70** — Al Amin Khalifah Fhimah, acquitted alongside Al-Megrahi in 2001, has died, Libyan Airlines announced. ([BBC](#))
 - **AI trolleys trialled** in UK supermarkets — part of a wider retail tech push. ([Tessera daily roundup](#))
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? World / International

- **Trump says all mines cleared from Strait of Hormuz.** The waterway was effectively closed since US/Israeli strikes on Iran in late February, causing wild oil-price swings. Iran and Oman are separately discussing a temporary joint shipping route and a formal mine-clearing mission; Brent crude fell on the news. ([BBC](#) · [CNBC](#) · [Benzinga](#))
- **Canada announces "dollar-for-dollar" retaliatory tariffs on US goods** — up to 50% — as trade tensions escalate. ([BBC](#))
- **Israel seizes UN facility in East Jerusalem** and vows to close it permanently, escalating the confrontation with the UN. ([Sky News](#))
- **First US measles deaths of 2026** — two people have died in Pennsylvania amid the country's biggest outbreak in more than three decades. ([Sky News](#))

- **SOUTHCAM resumes bombing boats accused of drug smuggling**; China urges the US to "act rationally" as Treasury threatens secondary sanctions on Iran's partners. ([Democracy Now!](#))
 - **Is Storm Shadow a game changer for Ukraine?** BBC defence analysis on the long-range missile's impact in the Russia-Ukraine war. ([BBC](#))
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??????? Wales

- **Welsh Government marks its first 100 days** — "First 100 days lay foundations for long-term change in Wales," the new administration said today (26 Aug). The BBC asks what Plaid Cymru has actually delivered in government so far. ([Welsh Government](#) · [BBC](#))
 - **Labour wants budget deal with Plaid Cymru government**, says Welsh Labour leader Ken Skates. ([BBC Wales Politics](#))
 - **Glass deposit operator confirmed after months of wrangling** — Exchange for Change will run Wales's recycling deposit scheme alongside its UK-wide programmes. ([BBC](#))
 - **Heatwaves drive record-breaking demand on NHS services in Wales**; council leaders warn budget pressures could mean further council tax rises. ([BBC](#))
 - **"Lessons need to be learned" from the wildfires**, the minister admits, after a Welsh county became a global hotspot for carbon emissions. ([BBC](#))
 - **Anti-Ukraine post from a Reform supporter's account was unofficial**, the party says. ([BBC](#))
 - **No bin collections for five months** has residents "living in their own waste". ([BBC](#))
 - **Married councillors lose their positions** after not turning up to work for six months. ([BBC](#))
 - **New Welsh Labour leader opens up** about a decades-long struggle with anxiety and depression. ([BBC](#))
 - **First minister urges shops to stop selling disposable BBQs**. ([BBC](#))
 - **South Wales Fire and Rescue Service reforms praised**, but funding questions raised. ([BBC](#))
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?? Weather

- **Yellow warnings in force** as rain and thunderstorms hit parts of England and Wales — some of the wettest weather in several weeks. ([BBC](#))

? Social Media Reaction

- Nitter, Reddit and Phice sources were down for this run — skipped. (Twitter/X, Reddit reaction not captured.)

? Feel-Good Roundup

- **Nicotine vapes are the best chance to quit smoking** — they beat patches, gum and pills, the most up-to-date evidence review finds. ([BBC](#))
- **Top GCSE results in Wales saw a slight increase** after major qualification changes (reported 20 Aug). ([BBC Wales Politics](#))

? Quick Summary

Section	Top story
Top Story	Burnham to lobby Trump for Patriot missiles at UNGA; Ofgem bills +4% from Oct
UK Politics	Care leavers death rate 4x; NHS failing CSA victims; energy bills crisis
UK Domestic	Second charge over Hounslow fire; 42-route London bus strike; A66 crash probe
World	Hormuz mines "cleared"; Canada-US tariff war escalates; Israel seizes UN site
Wales	WG first 100 days; Ken Skates seeks Plaid budget deal; NHS heatwave strain
Weather	Yellow rain/storm warnings, England & Wales
Polling	Labour 26%, Reform 25%, Con 20% (7-poll avg)

Sources: BBC News UK & Wales Politics, Sky News, The Guardian, CNBC, Kyiv Independent, Ukrinform, Kyiv Post, Democracy Now!, Metro, Time Out, PollCheck, Welsh Government News, WalesOnline.

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