

Reform UK — Donor Overview

Reform UK — Overview of Donor Structure & Patterns

This file provides an overview and context for Reform UK's donor ecosystem.

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)
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