# Lisa Nandy explores fashion's impact on politics in Elle interview



During a recent photoshoot for Elle magazine, Culture Secretary Lisa Nandy showcased a striking £2,845 outfit, including a £1,295 camel trench coat, a £750 black wool blazer, and a £625 silk shirt, all designed by British designer Laura Pitharas. At 45, Nandy has emerged at the forefront of discussions surrounding the intersection of fashion and politics, suggesting that fashion plays a more significant role in shaping society than the political sphere.

In her interview with Elle, Nandy articulated her evolving perspective on fashion since taking up her ministerial role, stating, “One of the things I’ve learned about fashion since I got appointed to this job, that I hadn’t really understood before, is just how good it is at interpreting and shaping the country and the world we live in. It defines what comes next... I find it really curious how good fashion is at that and how bad politics is.” Her comments underscore a belief in the visual impact of clothing and its ability to reflect cultural trends and sentiments.

Despite her endorsement of the fashion industry, Nandy's relationship with clothing has come under scrutiny. In October, she faced criticism after it was revealed that she had received a loan of clothing from a luxury fashion brand shortly before declaring she had never accepted free items from donors. This incident coincided with her defence of Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer, who was reported to have accepted more than £20,000 worth of clothing and eyewear from Labour peer Lord Alli.

Addressing the situation, Nandy expressed a degree of nonchalance, remarking, “There’s not much you can say about what I wear nowadays that isn’t water off a duck’s back.” In a statement, a spokesman for Elle clarified that none of the items featured in the photoshoot were received as freebies, asserting that everything worn by Ms Nandy was either “her own or borrowed and returned.”

Nandy’s comments and the surrounding controversies highlight ongoing conversations about the role of fashion in politics, particularly as politicians increasingly navigate public perception in a visually-oriented media landscape.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

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3. <https://www.alamy.com/stock-photo/lisa-nandy.html> - Offers high-resolution photos and images of Lisa Nandy from various events, including her roles in political leadership.
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