# Donald Trump renews attack on London Mayor Sadiq Khan as political tensions escalate



US President Donald Trump has once again launched a withering attack on London Mayor Sadiq Khan, describing him as a "nasty person" who has done a "terrible job" running the capital. The remarks were made during a joint press conference in Scotland with UK Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer, where Trump was asked about plans to visit London on an upcoming state visit. "I'm not a fan of your mayor," Trump stated bluntly, reigniting long-standing tensions between the two figures, which have featured public criticism from both sides over the years.

Sir Keir Starmer, standing by his close ally, defended Khan as "a good friend of mine," and the UK Prime Minister also expressed support, calling Khan "a friend of mine." Nonetheless, Trump remained critical, emphasising his dissatisfaction with Khan’s tenure but saying he would visit London nonetheless. Khan’s office responded by pointing to the city's celebrated diversity and intellectual capital, highlighting a record number of Americans applying for British citizenship under Trump’s presidency as a marker of the city’s international appeal despite political discord.

The feud between Trump and Khan has a lengthy backdrop, with the former president also previously accusing Khan of incompetence, particularly in relation to rising knife crime in London. Concerns over Khan’s performance have been echoed by some British politicians voicing frustration at the capital’s escalating crime rates, housing shortages, and rising taxation under his administration. Shadow Home Secretary Chris Philp notably criticised the decision to award Khan a knighthood earlier this year, calling it a "reward for failure," and leading to a petition garnering over 220,000 signatures opposing the honour. The petition cited divisions in the city, stagnant growth, and Khan’s perceived deflection of responsibility.

Trump’s critique also included a sharp defence of his own record, pushing back against Khan’s previous comments about his golfing during natural disasters, and accusing Khan of over-focusing on London’s knife crime issue while being a "terrible mayor who should stay out of our business." These exchanges reflect the deeply personal and political nature of their longstanding antagonism, which continues to resonate in UK and transatlantic political discourse.

As the debate unfolds, it encapsulates broader tensions in the management and portrayal of London amidst national and international scrutiny, alongside the polarised views on leadership effectiveness in one of the world’s most high-profile cities.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2088189/poll-donald-trump-sadiq-khan-london-mayor), [[4]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/donald-trump-reignites-feud-with-sadiq-khan-as-he-calls-london-mayor-a-nasty-person-a4228121.html), [[6]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/donald-trump-reignites-feud-with-sadiq-khan-as-he-calls-london-mayor-a-nasty-person-a4228121.html)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2088189/poll-donald-trump-sadiq-khan-london-mayor), [[2]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/donald-trump-feud-sadiq-khan-london-mayor-nasty-b1240376.html)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2088189/poll-donald-trump-sadiq-khan-london-mayor), [[5]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/donald-trump-blasts-sadiq-khan-as-incompetent-as-he-hits-back-at-london-mayor-over-golf-criticism-a4228121.html)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2088189/poll-donald-trump-sadiq-khan-london-mayor), [[3]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/donald-trump-blasts-sadiq-khan-as-incompetent-as-he-hits-back-at-london-mayor-over-golf-criticism-a4228121.html), [[5]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/donald-trump-blasts-sadiq-khan-as-incompetent-as-he-hits-back-at-london-mayor-over-golf-criticism-a4228121.html)
* Paragraph 5 – [[3]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/donald-trump-blasts-sadiq-khan-as-incompetent-as-he-hits-back-at-london-mayor-over-golf-criticism-a4228121.html), [[5]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/donald-trump-blasts-sadiq-khan-as-incompetent-as-he-hits-back-at-london-mayor-over-golf-criticism-a4228121.html)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2088189/poll-donald-trump-sadiq-khan-london-mayor> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/donald-trump-feud-sadiq-khan-london-mayor-nasty-b1240376.html> - US President Donald Trump reignited his feud with London Mayor Sadiq Khan, calling him a 'nasty person' and criticising his tenure as mayor. During a press conference with Prime Minister Keir Starmer in Scotland, Trump stated, 'I'm not a fan of your mayor. I think he's done a terrible job, the Mayor of London... a nasty person.' Starmer defended Khan, describing him as 'a good friend of mine.' This exchange highlights the ongoing tensions between Trump and Khan, which have been marked by mutual criticism over the years.
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