# Nigel Farage’s party exploits offshore donations amid UK election campaign



Nigel Farage’s political outfit is ramping up a controversial fundraising campaign targeting wealthy donors in offshore low-tax havens like Monaco, the UAE, and Switzerland, exploiting Britain’s loose political funding regulations. This strategy aims to position them as a formidable player in forthcoming elections—a move that starkly contrasts with the genuine need for political integrity and transparency.

Leading the charge is Nick Candy, the party’s treasurer and high-profile property developer, who revealed plans to host lavish fundraising events in exclusive venues, including private homes, restaurants, and yachts. Candy openly admits that donors include British expatriates and foreign nationals with UK business interests, who funnel contributions through UK-registered companies or electoral registers, a loophole that raises serious questions about foreign influence and accountability in UK politics.

Candy bluntly states, “You have to be on the UK electoral register or the overseas electoral register or have a UK trading company. There are plenty of people in Monaco, Switzerland, the Isle of Man, Guernsey, who can meet both of those criteria to donate.” The party’s claim to welcome donations from "any people who want to help" only underscores a blatant openness to cash from shadowy sources, undermining the democratic process.

This push coincides with preparations for the May 1 local and mayoral elections across England, and the parliamentary by-election in Runcorn, where Candy himself has personally injected £200,000. However, despite making electoral gains in the July general election by securing five seats, the party’s financial intake remains modest compared to the major parties—raising £280,000 in the final 2024 quarter, dwarfed by the Conservatives’ £2 million and Labour’s £1 million in the same period.

Though Candy touts rapid fundraising growth since his December appointment—claiming “millions of pounds” secured early this year—this is largely buoyed by promises from affluent Conservative donors hedging their bets as the Labour government struggles. The implication: a right-wing cash grab capitalising on disillusionment with current politics rather than a groundswell of grassroots support.

The party’s attempt to charm offshore donors from oil and gas sectors reflects its entrenched opposition to the government's climate policies. Farage has even likened the net zero agenda to “the next Brexit,” signalling a deliberate pushback against environmental progress in favour of vested industrial interests. The solicitation of donations from energy executives unhappy with UK taxation reveals an alarming alignment with business lobbies keen to preserve profitable status quos at the expense of national interest.

Critics accuse the party of hypocrisy, noting that while Farage feigns grassroots appeal by knocking on doors in places like Runcorn, the real money comes from luxury lifestyles and offshore bank accounts. One Tory insider cynically remarked, “Farage pulls pints in Runcorn for the cameras but he’d rather be raising toasts in Monaco. It’s all flat caps in Merseyside and flat whites in Monte Carlo. They want the common man’s vote but it’s the offshore account that gets the follow-up call.”

Candy himself points to the UK’s accelerating brain drain, citing Egyptian billionaire Nassef Sawiris’s move to Italy and Abu Dhabi as evidence of “years of incompetence” by previous Conservative governments and ill-thought tax changes—failings that the current Labour administration inherited and has yet to resolve. The scrapping of the non-domiciled tax regime, initiated under Labour, further fuels the exodus of wealthy individuals who now populate the donor lists Reform taps into, raising uncomfortable questions about whose interests this party truly represents.

The party’s earlier attempt to secure funds from Elon Musk failed, highlighting risks implicit in the UK’s permissive approach allowing foreign individuals to donate through UK-registered companies. Unlike personal donations, corporate contributions linked to overseas donors face no ceilings, a loophole that continues to draw ethics concerns as it opens doors to unchecked influence.

Despite Sir Keir Starmer’s ethical advisers calling for stricter caps on corporate donations linked to overseas individuals, the current government has failed to enact sufficient reforms. This laissez-faire approach only emboldens parties exploiting the system to prioritise wealthy international backers over the British public.

As elections loom, the story of Nigel Farage’s party exemplifies the troubling financial machinations reshaping UK politics—a spectacle of offshore-funded ambition and opportunism masked as grassroots resurgence. Without proper safeguards and genuine accountability, these tactics threaten to further erode trust in a political system already strained under new Labour’s faltering leadership and inability to deliver on promises.

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

## Bibliography

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