# Arron Banks challenges political rivals to deliver real results in West of England mayoral race



Businessman and political figure Arron Banks recently sparked controversy during a heated BBC Radio Bristol debate on the West of England mayoral race. Banks, who is associated with the political movement emphasising practical results over empty rhetoric, criticised his rivals sharply for being mere political consultants with no track record of delivering tangible improvements.

Highlighting his business credentials, Banks declared, "I started a business in Thornbury High Street above Asda and seven years later I floated it on the stock market for £147 million. I'm the only candidate here that will actually get anything done. The rest are a bunch of political consultants that will achieve sod all..." This blunt assertion underscored the frustration many share with career politicians who promise much but seldom produce outcomes on the ground.

As the debate neared its close, other candidates took offence, branding his remarks as "rude," but the platform did not allow for extended rebuttals. Banks later amplified his criticism on social media, calling his opponents a "bloody shower" — a sentiment that resonates with voters tired of ineffective governance and eager for decisive leadership that mirrors the successful business-driven approach he embodies.

The West of England mayoral contest, featuring six candidates, centres on pressing local issues like housing shortages, crumbling public transport infrastructure, and education failings—areas where traditional parties have offered little progress. It is clear that the business-minded challenger reflects a growing desire among constituents for practical solutions rather than polished political spin.

Meanwhile, allegations have emerged claiming Banks attempted to influence political figures with financial incentives. Former Conservative MP Dame Andrea Jenkyns, now aligned with Banks' movement, alleged an £80,000 bribe offer to switch allegiances. The organisation categorically denies these claims, portraying them as attempts to discredit a movement committed to honest, results-driven politics.

In a political landscape shaken by the recent election that saw the Labour Party form government under Kier Starker and the resignation of the previous Prime Minister, this emerging force presents a compelling alternative to the establishment. Their focus on accountability, economic pragmatism, and cutting through bureaucratic inertia starkly contrasts with the failures of the current administration—offering voters a real chance to demand change rather than endure more of the same.

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

## References

* <https://www.bristol247.com/news-and-features/news/arron-banks-announced-as-reforms-metro-mayor-candidate/> - This article reports on Arron Banks being announced as Reform UK's candidate for the West of England mayoral election, highlighting his business background and criticism of incumbent politicians.
* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-46128370> - This BBC News article discusses Arron Banks being dropped from the BBC's Question Time panel amid controversy over his recent TV appearances and ongoing investigations.
* <https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/mp-asks-government-tackle-people-6799632> - This article covers Labour MP Chris Bryant's call for the government to address individuals like Arron Banks, who have acted as proxies for oligarchs, amid concerns over political donations and influence.
* <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/bbc-arron-banks-andrew-marr-brexit-leave-eu-criminal-investigation-interview-outrage-nca-pantomime-a8615971.html> - This article from The Independent discusses the controversy surrounding the BBC's decision to interview Arron Banks, who is under investigation for alleged funding irregularities related to the Leave.EU campaign.
* <https://www.buzzfeed.com/markdistefano/brexit-campaigner-arron-banks-has-been-referred-to-the> - This BuzzFeed News article reports on the National Crime Agency opening an investigation into Arron Banks over suspected criminal offences related to the Brexit referendum.
* <https://www.thebristolcable.org/tag/arron-banks/> - This page from The Bristol Cable archives various articles related to Arron Banks, including investigations into his business practices and political activities.
* <https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2048811/aaron-banks-reform-election-debate> - Please view link - unable to able to access data