# Nigel Farage promises to scrap two-child benefit cap and restore winter fuel payments in direct challenge to Labour



Nigel Farage is gearing up to challenge the new Labour government's priorities with bold proposals aimed at addressing winter fuel payments and the divisive two-child benefit cap. According to sources close to Farage, his forthcoming speech will starkly criticize Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer, branding him “one of the most unpatriotic prime ministers in our history,” thereby setting the tone for his party's fierce opposition.

With recent local election victories enhancing his party's standing, Farage is keen to ride this wave of momentum. Polling data suggests his party is now the preferred choice among voters, even leaving Labour and the once-dominant Conservative party in a precarious position. His razor-thin win in Runcorn—secured by a mere six votes—has been celebrated as a pivotal moment for his political agenda.

At the heart of Farage's strategy is the audacious proposal to abolish the two-child benefit cap, which was introduced by the Conservatives in 2017 under the pretext of controlling welfare spending. This limit, which restricts financial support to families with more than two children, has been linked directly to rising child poverty levels. Figures from the Institute for Fiscal Studies indicate that repealing this cap would come at a hefty annual cost of £3.4 billion. Farage insists that lifting this restriction would ease financial burdens for low-income families while potentially incentivizing larger family units—an argument that strikes at the very heart of the Labour government’s existing welfare strategies.

In tandem, Farage's advocacy for the restoration of universal winter fuel payments directly challenges Labour’s record on pensioner benefits. He has sharply denounced the previous cuts as “cynical” and “cruel,” particularly for pensioners reliant on modest incomes but falling outside means-tested support. As discussions around child poverty become increasingly urgent, the new government faces mounting pressure not just from Reform UK but from internal party factions as well. It appears a potential action plan to address child poverty might even consider scrapping the two-child cap; a development that could signal a major policy shift ahead of the next election.

Despite recent absences from parliament, Farage is expected to return with renewed drive, framing his message around the disconnect of the current government from the working-class populace. “The Prime Minister is out of touch with working people,” he plans to assert, as he seeks to position his party as the champion of those ignored by the prevailing political narrative.

Reform UK's clear stance against the two-child cap and its plans to restore winter fuel payments aim not only to shore up support from disenchanted Conservative voters but also to attract those on the left who feel let down by Labour’s current policies. As Farage’s announcements set the stage for a contentious political landscape, the potential for a realignment in British politics looms on the horizon.

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14746745/Nigel-Farages-plot-win-lefties-Reform-leader-commit-restoring-winter-fuel-payments-scrapping-two-child-benefit-cap.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/07/31/nigel-farage-wont-vote-scrap-winter-fuel-payments-pensioner/> - Nigel Farage, leader of Reform UK, has publicly opposed Labour's plan to restrict winter fuel payments to pensioners receiving means-tested benefits. He criticized the decision as 'cynical' and 'cruel,' emphasizing that it would affect nearly 10 million pensioners, many of whom are not wealthy. Farage highlighted the impact on constituents like 99-year-old WWII veteran Jim O'Dwyer, who would lose the allowance due to a small pension. He vowed to vote against the measure in Parliament, suggesting that the funds could be better allocated elsewhere.
3. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/06/17/scrapping-two-child-benefit-cap-cost-ifs/> - The Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) estimates that abolishing the two-child benefit cap would cost £3.4 billion annually. The cap, introduced by the Conservatives in 2017, limits child tax credit or Universal Credit claims to two children per household. While intended to reduce welfare spending, the policy has been criticized for increasing child poverty. Reform UK leader Nigel Farage supports scrapping the cap, arguing it would encourage larger families and alleviate financial pressures on low-income parents.
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