Daniel Greenberg CB
Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards
House of Commons SW1A OAA

Wednesday 16 September 2026

Breach of MPs Code of Conduct by Nigel Farage MP

Dear Mr Greenberg

I write to raise a complaint in respect of Nigel Farage MP, which is related to your current investigation, but an additional aspect to this.

1. **Complaint No 1 Failure to declare an April 2024 'gift' of £5 million from cryptocurrency billionaire Christopher Harborne by March 2025 (9 months after Mr Farage became an MP) at which point Reform adopted i) a political policy of promising a substantial tax cut to cryptocurrency traders ii) adopted a Reform Party policy of becoming the first political party to accept cryptocurrency donations.**

Mr Farage has stated that he received a personal gift of £5 million from Christopher Harborne, a cryptocurrency billionaire, on 5 April 2024.

Mr Farage was elected as MP for Clacton on 4 July 2024.

Mr Farage has publicly insisted that Paragraph 5 of the Members Code of Conduct which requires registration of all non-earnings financial interests received in the 12 months prior to election does NOT apply to him, claiming the £5 million was a gift was unrelated to his future work as an MP.

However, in March 2025 the Reform Party of which Mr Farage is the UK leader announced two new linked policies

a) A political policy that if it won the next general election it would reduce capital gains tax on cryptocurrency from 24% down to a 10%.
b) A party policy that Reform would now become the first political party to accept donations in Cryptocurrency.[1]

[1] 'Reform UK becomes first British political party to accept Bitcoin donations, says Farage' *Business Quarter* 30 May 2025 <https://businessquarter.co.uk/reform-uk-becomes-first-british-political-party-to-accept-bitcoin-donations-says-farage/> [accessed 16 September 2026].

This was less than 12 months since Mr Farage received the £5 million from Mr Harborne who is widely described in the media as a cryptocurrency billionaire, and only 9 months since Mr Farage was elected as an MP. As such, at this point it should have been obvious to Mr Farage that he should have declared the £5 million from Mr Harborne, a cryptocurrency billionaire as it had clearly at this stage become materially relevant to his work as an MP and parliamentary leader of the Reform Party, even if it had not been previously.

The Guide to the Rules relating to the Conduct of Members states that

> ***"Requirements for declaration***
>
> *5. Members are required, subject to the paragraphs below, to declare any financial interests which satisfy the test of relevance, including:*
>
> *a) past financial interests (normally limited to those active within the last twelve months);*
>
> *b) indirect financial interests…*
>
> *c) expected future interests,* ***if the Member's plans have moved beyond vague hopes and aspirations*** *and reached the stage where the Member has a reasonable expectation that a financial benefit will accrue*."

Clearly, at this point rule c) DOES apply as Reform of which Mr Farage was leader was both proposing both a substantial tax cut for those involved in cryptocurrency trading and actively soliciting donations from them, which represents a financial interest for the Reform Party of which Mr Farage is UK leader.

Further, Section D(2) of the *Members Code of Conduct* states

"2. Members must base their conduct on a consideration of the public interest, avoid conflict between personal interest and the public interest and resolve any conflict between the two, at once, and in favour of the public interest."

As such, at this point Mr Farage could no longer claim the £5 million 'gift' was a private interest, but had a specific obligation to prioritise the public interest by registering the £5 million in the register of members interests.

By not merely failing to do so – but subsequently positively refusing to do so, Mr Farage committed a serious breach of the Code of Conduct.

2. **Failure to act in an open and honest manner to public officials in relation to this. Specifically, subsequent to the initiation of the inquiry by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards all reference to the Reform Party policy promising substantial tax cuts to cryptocurrency traders were no longer on the Reform Party website.**

Although all references to the cryptoassets and Digital Finance Bill, which proposes reducing capital gains tax on cryptoassets from 24% to 10% has been removed from the Reform Party website, details of it remain in independent business media reports (HERE and HERE).[2]

Paragraph 6 of the Code of Conduct for Members of Parliament provides:

"*Members must always be open and frank in declaring any relevant interest in any proceeding of the House or its Committees, and in any communications with Ministers, Members, public officials or public office holders.*"

While *The Guide to the Rules relating to the Conduct of Members*

> *"2. The declaration of interests ensures that Members,* ***the public and others are made aware at the appropriate time****, in proceedings of the House and on other occasions, of any interest relevant to those proceedings* ***or to the actions or words of a Member****. The requirement to declare an interest complements the registration requirements and applies from the time the House first sits after the Member is elected and to almost every aspect of a Member's parliamentary duties. It covers a broader range of interests than registration.*
>
> *3. Declarations must be informative…*"

If Mr Farage failed to declare when the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards began his investigation, that Reform had adopted a political policy of substantial tax cuts for cryptocurrency traders and was also actively soliciting donations in cryptocurrency – that would breach this aspect of the Code of Conduct.

3. Falsely claiming that Mr Harborne would "not benefit" from Reform's policy on cryptocurrency

In addition, on 14 September 2026 the BBC reported that following Mr Harborne making a further donation of £36 million to Reform as did another cryptocurrency billionaire Ben Delo, Mr Farage had claimed that they "will not benefit" from their donations:

"*Asked if the two men had influence over Reform's policy on cryptocurrency, Farage said he had shown them his party's paper on the subject and they both "thought it made sense".*

[2] 'Reform UK becomes first British political party to accept Bitcoin donations, says Farage' *Business Quarter* 30 May 2025 <https://businessquarter.co.uk/reform-uk-becomes-first-british-political-party-to-accept-bitcoin-donations-says-farage/> ; 'Farage Pitches Himself as Crypto's 'Champion,' Proposes UK Bitcoin Reserve and Tax Cuts' *Cryptonews* 13 October 2025 <https://cryptonews.com/news/farage-pitches-himself-as-cryptos-champion-proposes-uk-bitcoin-reserve-and-tax-cuts/>
[both accessed 16 September 2026].

He added that the two men "will not benefit" from Reform's policies, which he said aimed to properly regulate cryptocurrency."[3]

In fact, the claim that neither donor would benefit was not the case and almost certainly intended to mislead the public, as In March 2025 Mr Farage had announced a substantial cut in Capital Gains Tax for cryptocurrency traders. Whilst political discussion is rightly strongly protected and should not normally be within purview of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, there are significant reasons for regarding this as an exception as

a) Mr Farage's failure to declare Mr Harborne's previous £5 million donation to him three months before he became an MP was already being investigated by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards.
b) In July 2026 Mr Farage resigned his seat to fight a by-election one of whose main aims to thwart the ongoing investigation into his failure to declare this donation by Mr Harborne.
c) Mr Farage is still refusing to list the £5 million he received from Mr Harborne in the register of MPs interests – yet in the BBC interview he admits discussing Reform's policy on cryptocurrency with Mr Harborne, which clearly brings it within the political sphere of his work, rather than being purely personal.
d) Mr Harborne could reasonably be said to have a significant hope of personal financial gain from the tax cut on cryptocurrency trading Mr Farage announced less than 12 months after he made the gift to Mr Farage. As such Mr Farage's statement that neither Mr Harborne nor Mr Delo would benefit Reform's cryptocurrency policies was plainly untrue and to a reasonable would appear to be designed to mislead the public – and possibly public officials investigating Mr Farage.
e) The Reform Party of which Mr Farage is UK leader has actively sought to hide the party's policy on cryptocurrency by removing it from their website, whilst listing a wide range of other policies.[4]

Respectfully submitted

Yours sincerely

Dr Martin Parsons

[3] 'Farage says £72m donations are compliant "with the law today"' BBC 14 September <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c623xee9dkdyo> [accessed 16 September 2026].
[4] Reform UK 'Our policies' <https://www.reformparty.uk/policies> [accessed 16 September 2026].