

## Reform UK Eyes Local Wins to Shift Politics

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Reform UK, the political movement founded by Brexit champion Nigel Farage, is mounting a determined push in the UK's upcoming local elections, seeking to capitalize on public dissatisfaction with mainstream parties. Positioning itself as the voice of disillusioned voters, Reform UK has sharpened its campaign rhetoric on immigration, economic mismanagement, and what it calls the "Westminster disconnect." While previously seen as a fringe protest party, recent polling and grassroots enthusiasm suggest it could gain ground in key councils. Party leader Richard Tice, with Farage playing a strategic role in the background, says the elections represent "a turning point" in British politics. The party is fielding a record number of candidates, targeting both Labour and Conservative strongholds where voters are reportedly frustrated with rising living costs and a lack of meaningful reform.

Analysts believe even modest local gains could amplify Reform UK's national profile ahead of the next general election. While the party remains far from securing parliamentary power, its growing presence could influence policy debates and siphon support from the Conservatives, particularly on issues like border control and net zero targets.

Critics argue Reform UK's messaging stokes division, but supporters view it as a necessary disruption to an entrenched two-party system. Farage, known for reshaping UK politics once before, remains a looming figure whose return to frontline politics would further energize the movement.

As ballots approach, the party is banking on anti-establishment sentiment to boost its presence at the local level and send a broader message to Westminster.