



BY-ELECTION IN WELLINGBOROUGH 2024

## VOTE GEOFF COURTENAY FOR UKIP

Dear Wellingborough voter,

So, the by-election date is now fixed for 15<sup>th</sup> February, and for this I want to concentrate on just three issues – the corruptive influence that major party donors have over their policies, particularly on immigration and on housing, and the way that corruption is the cause today of both mass immigration and sky-high property prices, rents and homelessness. In short I am presenting UKIP as the Anti-Corruption Party and firmly believe that only a truly independent party such as UKIP can now push through the policies that are essential if we are to Save Britain and Make Her Great Again.

Do please read our manifesto at <https://www.ukip.org/party-policies> and you can contact me at [courtenaygeoff@gmail.com](mailto:courtenaygeoff@gmail.com) with any questions you may have.

Please also read Reform UK's manifesto. Now that may seem an odd request coming from me, but I want you to see how it contains little more than what Suella Braverman would call a load of wishful thinking. There is some truly bonkers stuff in there and they have nothing at all to say about housing. Their focus is purely destructive – to destroy the Conservative Party. I do not wish to do that – just to remove them from office. We need multi-party democracy and the Conservative Party deserves a place in it. The only reason Reform are up in the polls is because they have been spending a shedload of Mr. Tice's money on promotion and have a link to Nigel Farage. But Nigel, bless his cotton socks, was only ever a single issue politician and today is out of his depth. **Only UKIP has the answers.**

## WHY UKIP? I DIDN'T KNOW YOU STILL EXISTED!

Oh yes we do! Now you may think there is little chance of me winning this seat and becoming your MP. But either way that is not the point. The point is that we can offer you a range of practical policies, essential to solve the complex and dire problems we face as a nation, but which **no other party is advocating**. It is my job to offer you the chance to vote for genuine change so we can get the ball rolling again towards salvation, just as we did with Brexit. With your help we can do it again.

**So please, please vote positively, not tactically.** There really is no point in voting for the party you think most likely to get the current lot out if all you get is more of the same if not a whole lot worse. In a democracy the buck stops with you, the electorate. So please let us get away from the blame culture and take personal responsibility for our national future. It is not about blame. It is about understanding.

**If you don't fight you cannot win.**

So I present to you as a centrist, capitalist, low tax, libertarian, radical, non-tribal politician aiming to satisfy most of the people most of the time. Be independent. That makes me feel good, and it can make you feel good too!

## SO HOW DO WE DEFEAT CORRUPTION ?

Several parties have focused on the need for electoral reform, ie proportional representation, and yes I am all in favour of that, but I don't believe it will make much difference by itself. We have to go further. We have to go after political donations, vested interests and the patronage culture. Specifically I want to see:

- A cap on the size any donation to any political party at say £10,000 a year by any person or connected group of persons,
- A ban on any donor participating in any government contract for a period of five years after making that donation,
- A cap of 5% before tax on the profit of any entity in receipt of public subsidy to the extent it has been created by that subsidy,
- Civil Service recruitment and promotions based on merit alone,
- Senior appointments throughout both national and local government using the 'cheapest competent candidate' procedure whereby the five most competent names comprise the shortlist and then those candidates are invited to bid for the job with the lowest bid appointed, just as you would do for a contractor,
- A National Chief Executive appointed for each and every public service,
- A complete organisational split between the Civil Service and the National Executive so that the former can hold the latter to account on behalf of ministers and Parliament.

## THEY DON'T WANT TO CONTROL LEGAL IMMIGRATION. THEIR EMPLOYER DONORS WON'T LET THEM

Currently around 90,000 people a MONTH are coming into this country quite legally. It is a shame this huge figure gets overshadowed by the much smaller, though growing, problem with illegals – about 5000 a month. I don't know how many people realise that under the points-based system work visas are handed out for five years to immigrants who have been offered a job paying a minimum of £20,480 and qualify for 70 points. There is no limit to these, which are at well below the average wage. That means most of them are taking out more than they are putting in and are a drag on our economy. **It is no coincidence that over the past twenty years we have had the lowest rate of economic growth amongst the G7. We do NOT need these people – quite the reverse in fact.**

Not only that, most of them can extend for another five years and so on until they are granted permanent leave to remain or citizenship. An open-door policy if ever there was one.

It has become apparent from polls in Sweden that assessment of illegals results in about 80% being granted asylum, but of that 80% 79% regularly visit home on holiday. It is impossible to assess asylum claims objectively as no evidence is available to refute them, leaving judges in an impossible position. Clearly Rwanda would just be a waste of time as 80% of them would simply be 'legalised' and returned here.

Our manifesto now includes the following new policies on immigration:

- scrap the points-based system and Migration Advisory Committee and replace them with a quota system which covers both extensions and new applicants. As the quota is reduced it becomes progressively less possible and more expensive for employers to import staff than to recruit and train British workers. That will encourage them to start training again and reduce the massive levels of unemployment the taxpayer is currently carrying. Simply getting the unemployed working again, even if only part-time, will increase GDP whilst 'per capita' is constant or reducing creating instant GDP per capita growth. We will also scrap IR35 to liberate self-employment and incentivise the unemployed into work by reforming the benefits system
- tighten up the migration database records to give daily updates on overstayers of all sorts so Border Force officials can be dispatched immediately to locate and assist them on their way home,
- scrap the illegals assessment system and whisk all illegal arrivals straight out to British Overseas Territory such as West Falkland, or by purchasing as British Sovereign Territory, just like a military base or embassy, large tracts of habitable land in countries such as Outer Mongolia which would appreciate the foreign currency it earns them, where they would get asylum automatically. The genuine ones would stay and the economic would not. Under British rule and protection they would develop an economy and become self-sufficient.

I should also like to see the Bank set a separate target for maximum job vacancies to ensure sufficient British workers are freed up to fill the jobs vacated by immigrants.

**So far as I know UKIP is the only party advocating these policies.**

## **THEY CAN'T BUILD MORE HOMES OR MAKE HOUSING AFFORDABLE AGAIN. THEIR LANDOWNER DONORS WHO GET 100% OF ALL PLANNING GAIN WON'T LET THEM**

Under the 1961 Land Compensation Act 100% of all planning gain goes to the landowner. They even get 'hope value' which is where they sell without planning permission to a developer who does who then has to pay it back to them! This has allowed landowners to exploit the devastating effect of mass immigration by ratcheting up the cost of land to the point where not only can first-time buyers not afford their own homes, but also local authorities and housing associations can no longer afford land either. Even property developers are adversely affected with most SMEs now no longer in business. The result is that today around 70% of the cost of a new home is the cost of the land whereas in the 1950s it was less than 10%; that fewer than 5000 new social housing units were built last year; and that fewer new homes are built for home-ownership now than at the start of the catastrophic Help to Buy programme ten years ago, which has just pushed up house prices still further.

In 2017 Sajid Javid, who was Theresa May's housing minister at the time, recognised the need to repeal the 1961 Act and had broad cross-party support to do so. So he drafted a White Paper proposing it and sent it up to No.10 for approval. It came back completely redacted of any reference to the 1961 Act. This was also around the time the Tories allegedly received a donation of £16 million from Persimmon, the property developer. From this I cannot help but conclude that Mrs. May's attention was much more clearly focused on the size of donations flooding into Tory party coffers than it was on the needs of the British people.

Today I am convinced that only a truly independent party such as UKIP can overcome the power of such vested interests. Specifically as regards housing I should like to see:

- Repeal of the 1961 Land Compensation Act, with planning gain to be shared 25/25/50 between landowners, a National Housing Development Corporation, and Local Development Corporations, the last to be used for local infrastructure investment and social housing. The National DC is necessary if we are to focus most new housing up North on brownfield sites as otherwise landowners and developers will concentrate deals where they are most profitable, which is on green belt land in the South East,
- Support this with a regional policy based on tax discounts by post code,
- Give the Bank of England a separate target of minus 2% for house price inflation so we can manage a steady gentle decline in house prices which does not threaten existing home owners with any possibility of repossession.
- Restore full housing benefit so HAs can access the City for capital finance.

**So far as I know no other party is advocating these policies.**

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