

[Green Party Deputy Leader, Mothin Ali, reports racial harassment by Reform councillor to Leeds police](#)

Green Party Deputy Leader and Leeds City Councillor, Mothin Ali, has submitted a police complaint and a formal code of conduct complaint to the Council's Monitoring Officer after being [racially harassed by Reform UK councillor Ryan Taylor during a Leeds City Council meeting last night](#) (05:43:00 in).

In his maiden speech, Cllr Taylor gestured toward Cllr Ali while discussing grooming gangs, saying: *"some [elected representatives] of a certain colour, who would go as far as state the victims of abuse as a lifestyle choice."* Cllr Ali has described the comments as *"racist dog whistles"* designed to divide communities rather than address the real struggles facing families in Leeds.

Posting [on X](#) after the incident, Cllr Ali wrote:

"Last week, I met a woman at my advice surgery who was sanctioned for simply missing online journal entries. She had to turn to loan sharks just to pay her rent and feed the children she cares for. This is the reality for so many in our communities. It's why I fight every day for a fairer, more compassionate system.

Meanwhile, Reform are busy selling snake oil. This councillor, instead of offering real solutions, used his maiden speech to push racist dog whistles. While they divide, we're focused on helping the most disadvantaged in our society and building a future based on justice and care."

Cllr Ali responded to the incident today, saying:

"These comments were not just offensive to me personally, they were an attempt to stigmatise whole communities. Racism has no place in politics or in Leeds. These comments were designed to silence me, but I will not be silenced. I will not stand by while Reform try to divide and stigmatise my community. My job, as a Councillor and Deputy Leader of The Green Party, is to fight for fairness, justice, and compassion. And that's exactly what I will continue to do."

Green Party Leader Zack Polanski said:

"Reform are peddling hate and distraction, while people across Leeds and the country struggle with the cost of living, insecure housing and a crumbling NHS. Mothin Ali has shown enormous courage in calling this out. The Green Party stands fully behind him. Because politics should be about building hope, not spreading hate."

The Green Party is calling on Leeds City Council and Reform UK to take

immediate action to address this incident, and for all political parties to commit to higher standards of conduct in public life.

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Ministers visit centre supporting rural victims of domestic abuse

The Justice and Agriculture Ministers have met staff helping to support domestic abuse victims living in rural communities.

Long publishes next steps on coronial investigations into deaths abroad

Coroners in Northern Ireland will be able to investigate some deaths abroad under plans to be taken forward by the Department of Justice.

Muir announces over £3.2 million to support nature recovery projects

DAERA Minister Andrew Muir has committed over £3.2 million to support nature recovery projects through his department’s Environment Fund.