



PRESS RELEASE

Isle of Wight Constituency Labour Party

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 5th November 2014

IW Labour Party parliamentary candidate Stewart Blackmore has today written to Ukip candidate Ian McKie challenging him to clarify his position following his party leader's statement that he would be prepared to enter a coalition with the Tories.

On October 12 2014, Mr Farage told the Sunday Politics that he would support a Conservative government if they pledged to hold an in-out referendum on membership of the European Union:

"The price would be a full, free and fair referendum on our continued membership of the European Union...some time in July next year strikes me as a very good time to do this."

Nigel Farage, Sunday Politics, 12 October 2014

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/nigel-farage-says-ukip-would-prop-up-tories-in-next-government-in-return-for-eu-referendum-9789762.html>

It is hugely revealing of the character of your party that you are planning to prop up a Conservative government in 2015.

Working people have suffered under David Cameron. Wages are down £1,600 a year since 2010, there are almost 750,000 young people unemployed and a wasted £3bn re-organisation of the NHS has led to higher waiting times for patients. We now know that, instead of fighting this and standing up for hardworking families, UKIP are planning to help David Cameron finish the job.

This is perhaps unsurprising. Half of UKIP's leadership are former Tories, as are a quarter of UKIP candidates. UKIP is also bankrolled by the people who keep David Cameron in business, with 24 former tory donors giving over £2m to UKIP. On policy, UKIP want to go

Contact:

Dr Ed Gouge

Election Agent

Isle of Wight CLP

☎ 01983 853166 / 07849685766

✉ edgouge@gmail.com

further than the Tories by privatising the NHS, charging people to see their GP, give another tax cut to millionaires and have even bigger bankers' bonuses.

Can I ask whether you agree with Nigel Farage and would support a deal with the Tories after the next election?

Without a full and clear statement that you would not, people in the Isle of Wight will only conclude that UKIP is a party of Tory people, Tory policies and Tory money, more Tory than the Tories themselves.

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