



## Badenoch delivers sad speech attacking public sector equality duty

### Description

default watermark

Conservative leader Kemi Badenoch delivers a speech at the Institute for Government on June 09, 2026

Kemi Badenoch has announced her intention to [repeal the public sector equality duty](#) in its entirety.

The PSED, [or simply the duty](#) requires public sector leaders to abide by equality considerations set out in the 2010 Equality Act.

Principally, this means working to prevent discrimination against people with protected characteristics (race, sex, disability etc), and monitoring the outcomes of that work.

The news comes [just a week after](#) Nigel Farage weaponised the tragic murder of Henry Nowak as an excuse to attack diversity, equality and inclusion (DEI) initiatives.

Vickrum Digwa, a British Asian man, stabbed Nowak, then told police he had been the victim of a racially-motivated assault. The police arrested Nowak even as he lay dying, ignoring his pleas and him saying he'd been stabbed.

Shamelessly, the Reform leader used the incident to claim that the UK is a [two-tier system](#) biased against white people.

He called for an [end to DEI and positive discrimination](#) and [a country that treats everybody equally and fairly before the law](#).

## Badenoch claims laws [delivering perverse outcomes](#)

[In today's speech](#) Badenoch followed suit, trailing after her further-right counterpart. She claimed that the public sector equality duty had led to a pursuit of [equality of outcome](#) rather than

“equal treatment and equality under the law”.

Badenoch went on to brand the duty a “Blairite legal settlement”, and claimed that she was installed as Tory leader to undo it.

Likewise, she added:

There are many laws which were brought in with good intentions but are delivering perverse outcomes and unintended consequences.

Demonstrating that there are truly no depths to which she won’t stoop, the Tory-in-chief [attacked the Macpherson report](#). After the racially-motivated murder of Stephen Lawrence in 1993, and the disdainful reaction from law enforcement, the landmark report recognised that the [UK policing is institutionally racist](#).

Badenoch claimed that the report “wanted to put right what went wrong with policing in the 1990s”.

However in attempting to do so, it also defined a principle which I believe is wrong: that a racist incident is racist, if it is perceived as such by the victim or any other person.

This may have made sense in a different context long ago, but today when we look at the response to Henry Nowak’s murder, and the police’s acceptance that the murderer was correct when he accused Henry of racism, it’s clear that mere accusations are being accepted as facts.

**default watermark**

## “Fear of being called racist”

As examples of “equalities law overreach”, the Badenoch named the [Southport murders](#), Nottingham stabbings and the Manchester Arena bombing.

### [She claimed](#)

All these crimes could have been stopped if people had intervened instead of having a fear of being called racist.

An official inquiry into the Southport debacle highlighted that the Prevent counter-terrorism agency repeatedly ignored referrals for the murderer, [Axel Rudakubana](#), because his ideology wasn’t terror-related.

At the *Canary*, we phrased this another way:

The UK has invested so much in the very idea that [\(Muslim\) terrorism is the greatest threat](#) to our safety that we’ve actively started to damage the capacity to respond to non-terror threats.

That's a far cry from the police being afraid of being called racist. However, we're not exactly surprised that Badenoch has failed to take basic facts into account. [There's no other way you](#) could get to the conclusion that the police are somehow too anti-discrimination.

## Labour and Reform condemned by Tory leader

In spite of presenting what amounts to a watered-down Farage talking point, Badenoch attacked both Reform and Labour in her speech. The latter were, in her words, "not yet sure anything is wrong".

Meanwhile, Reform's plan to rip up the Equality Act completely, [as announced by ex-Tory turncoat](#) Suella Braverman, would apparently "make it legal to discriminate against white people".

Badenoch's words have been truly vile. She's ignored years of findings on police racism, yet again betraying Black and Brown people across the country. What's more, she and others have ignored Nowak's parents' plea not to use his murder to stir up hatred and division.

Beyond that, however, there's something so desperately pathetic about the Badenoch right now.

She's outflanked on the right by Nigel Farage, the figurehead [of a party of white supremacists](#) and bigots. Meanwhile, on her (near) left, Starmer has managed to sleepwalk into becoming prime minister simply by not being a Conservative.

The racist scum that used to vote for the Tories have a white man to vote for now. There's no level of self-hatred that Badenoch can display that will win them back. One day, she might even realise that.

Featured image via [Alishia Abodunde/ Getty Images](#)

By [Alex/Rose Cocker](#)

[Source link](#)

### CATEGORY

1. News

### POST TAG

1. attacking
2. badenoch
3. delivers
4. duty
5. equality
6. news
7. public
8. sad
9. sector

10. speech

Category

1. News

*default watermark*