

Sam Carter's original email:

Dear Mr Guest,

I am writing in regards to your leaflet which seems to have made some critical errors in judgement. As a left-winged MSc Masters student in Bioarchaeology who has a Belgian wife, I am probably not part of the demographic you are hoping to look for. This is also compounded by the fact that my dog tried to destroy your leaflet.

Firstly I would like to congratulate you on your articulacy. As a dyslexic, I couldn't find many errors on your leaflet in comparison to some of your other UKIP candidates who have been trending on social media, so that is a plus point. I do suspect though, that when talking about investing in the NHS, you would be better to put MORE rather than EXTRA. However, this is a minor matter of style to be honest.

Next I would like to point out a lie on the front of the leaflet. You claim immigration is "uncontrolled". This is a lie because there are controls in place with our immigration system. You could say it is inadequately controlled, but since there are controls, you cannot claim "uncontrolled".

On the back you claim you want a "FAIRER Australian-style points-based system". Forgive me if I am wrong, but we already have an Australian-style points-based system that was introduced in 2008. This is divided into four tiers and is capped. The exception is of course EU nationals, however, the advantage for British people is that we get to have unlimited access to the other countries as well, so I think this is a fair exchange. It is unfair and deceptive to therefore claim that you want this system, especially as Australia lets in more immigrants percentage wise than we do.

The next point that is the abolition of the inheritance tax. To be honest, I cannot for the life of me understand why you have targeted this other than a populist move. Examining the statistics, the government stated that in 2007 94% of inheritances fell in the nil rate band. This band has only increased since then and contributions from this tax are only 0.8% of government income. The only people that this abolition would appeal to then, is rich people. Even then, it is relatively pointless as there are numerous ways to avoid it, some of which encouraging charity.

Next I move onto foreign aid, something you say you would cut. Now I seem to remember that our foreign aid is some ways out of your control and dictated by the treaties that we have signed as a nation and are expected to do as part of trade networks, diplomatic alliances and other such agreements. I believe this means that UKIP have no power to affect this and by cutting future aid, you would alienate us on the world stage. Furthermore, your stance does not make sense. If you want less immigration and any immigrants that do arrive in this country to be skilled, surely you want to assist developing countries? After all, better developed countries means less people trying to get in to find a better life.

Finally I approach the significant flaw in your plan. These plans your party made requires you to leave the EU. Looking at a recent Yougov poll, 45% of people would vote to stay in the EU, 35% would leave and 17% are undecided (leaving 3% not voting). In order to win

this, you would require 14% of the undecided voters to be convinced by your arguments. This seems like a long shot and may fail. If so, you would be unable to deliver on your election promises.

Your election promises focus on blaming the EU and immigration as the source of all our woes. I suggest that you pick up a copy of political magazines such as Private Eye which would inform you otherwise. Blaming one or two causes for our woes is simplistic and deeply short-sighted. The NHS's problems are not just money, tax evasion is not caused by the EU and the current government's urge to privatise everything is a deeply troubling issue for a lot of people, especially in the areas of scientific work such as forensics and food sciences. By blaming immigrants for our troubles, you are ignoring the actual issues in some cases and are simply being xenophobic, which is probably why your party occasionally gets accusations of racism and homophobia, especially with your phobia of HIV.

I would like to finish on one last point. As I mentioned earlier, I have a Belgian wife. She came, as my girlfriend, to this country in 2009. She worked in a shop for 5 years full time, before moving on to a company which hires immigrants to control their interests in the country of their birth. We currently own a house which most of the deposit was paid for by her savings. She has given our country a lot and she enjoys living here and working in a vibrant, multi-cultural city. If we applied the Australian points based system she would not have got here. In order to be with her, I would need to live in Belgium. I would therefore be unable to work in the archaeological sector as Belgium is not particularly good for heritage. If I wanted to continue my education and gain a PhD in Copenhagen (which along with York and Oklahoma, is one of the few universities offering a PhD in my field of ancient dental calculus analysis), I would be having issues as we would no longer be part of the EU. Your party is therefore deliberately trying to break down relationships that we have with other countries. Whilst you can claim that you would attempt to continue these relationships, the matter of the fact is that it would probably destroy trust in us as well as creating an isolated Britain.

I have no trust in UKIP. This distrust stems from attempts at demagogery, frequent outbursts from party members and the clear denial of facts (including climate change as I note in one letter on your website). I would suggest that before canvassing that you don't put lies in your leaflets. I would also suggest that actually paying attention to the truth is another.

Yours Sincerely

Sam Carter

Ken Guest's reply...

Dear Mr Carter

Many thanks for your email. It is always interesting to receive feedback on one's efforts even when it originates from a totally distorted left-wing perspective such as yours. Since you clearly support the concept of the EU then you cannot claim to be in favour of democracy and hence I have to assume that you either favour anarchy, dictatorship or communism all of which have proved to have disastrous consequences for mankind in the past. But maybe you know better.

Now that you and your dog have identified all the major errors in both my leaflet and UKIP's policies, perhaps you could turn your imaginative bioarchaeological powers to resolving the relatively minor matter of the UK's £1.6 trillion National Debt and in particular how to avoid leaving this as a legacy for the following generation to enjoy. With such a colossal financial burden it's unlikely they will be able to afford even 1 useless wind turbine to keep the lights on whilst they study their ancient dental calculus analysis.

Please feel free to put forward your solution to the UK's problems by standing for public office. Failing that, I trust that you will be able to resource your future world-changing studies through grants generated by taxing the working population.

Regards

Ken Guest

UKIP PPC - York Central