
THE RURAL VOTE: EIGHT MONTHS ON

The Farming Forum election poll, January vs September 2026

September 2026

Eight months, one very different answer

41.7%

Reform, down from 59.4%

Like for like, on the five parties that were on both ballots

44.7%

Conservative, up from 26.2%

Now the largest single choice on the forum for the first time

15.8%

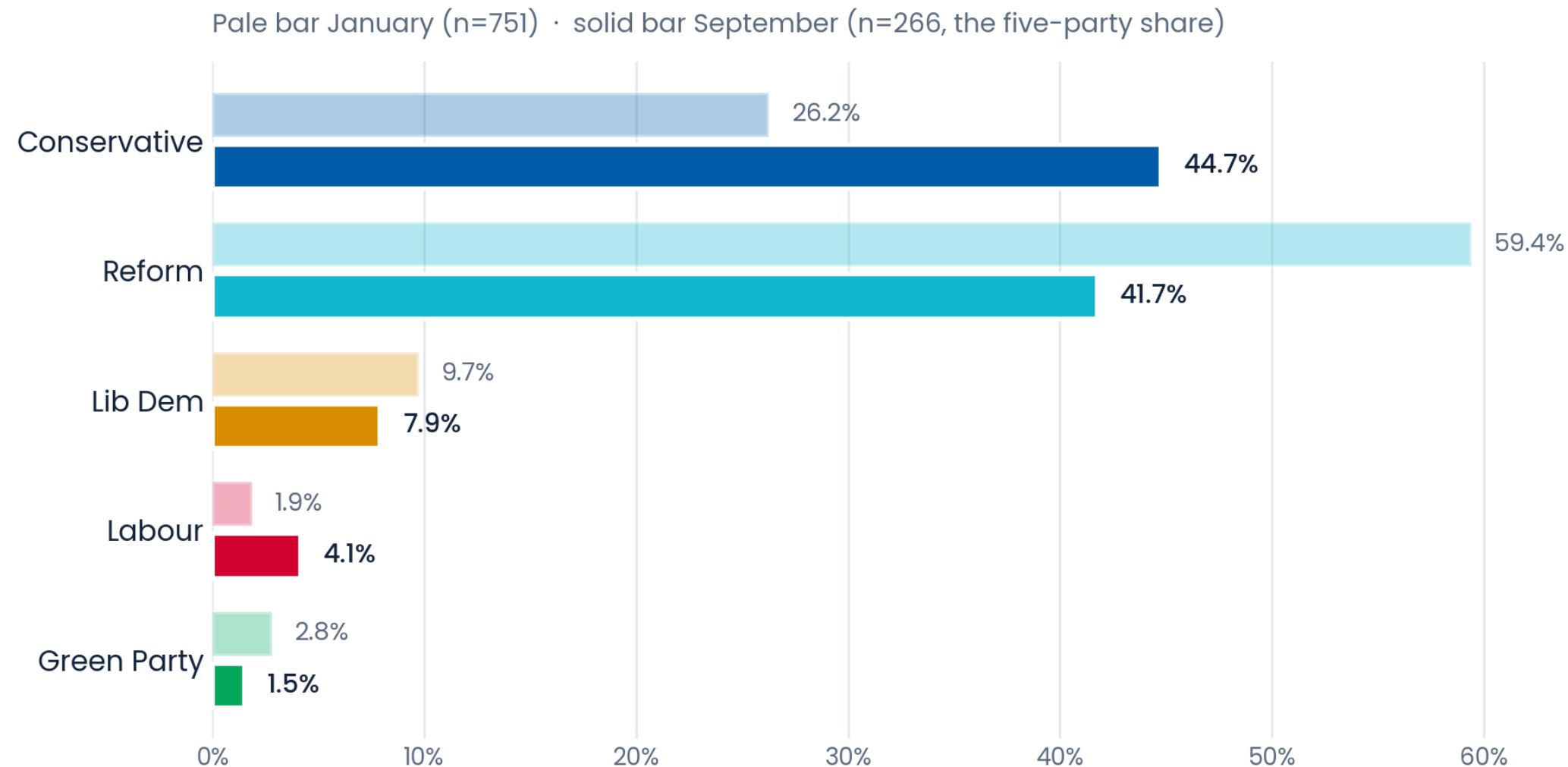
Restore, from a standing start

59 votes for a party that did not exist as a party in January

January: **751 votes** cast in the original poll, over roughly three weeks.

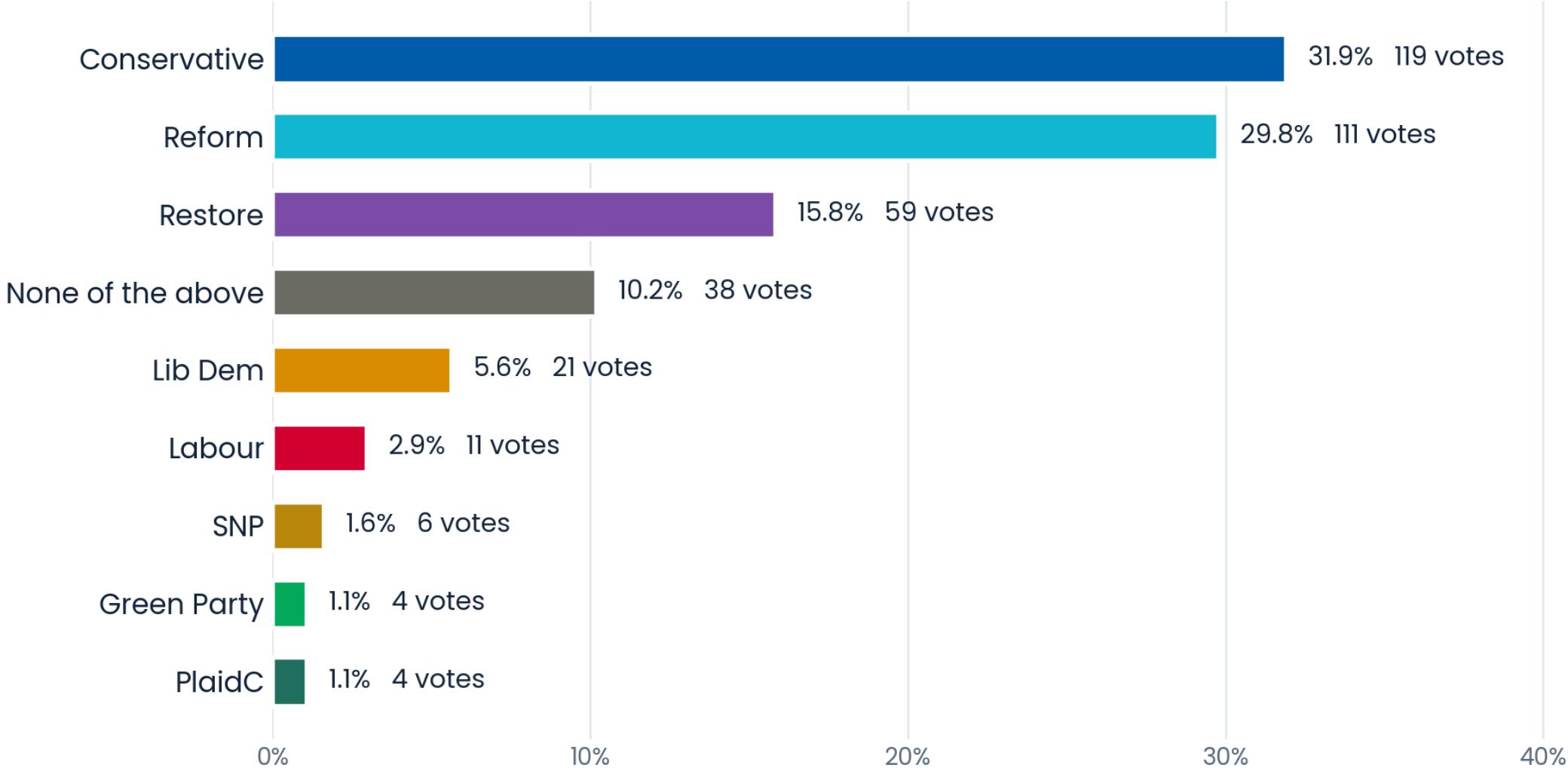
September: **373 votes** in the first four days, on a nine-option ballot.

The like-for-like picture



The full September ballot

All nine options · 373 votes cast, reading taken 7 September 2026



Reform has lost its majority here

In January, Reform took **more votes than every other party combined**: 446 out of 751.

In September it sits second on 111 votes, **eight behind the Conservatives**.

Add Restore back in and the wider anti-establishment right is on **45.6%**, still well short of the 59.4% Reform managed on its own.

The split matters more than the total. One bloc has become two.

Restore arrives, and it costs Reform

Restore Britain registered as a party in **February 2026**. This is the first time TFF members have been able to vote for it.

59 votes, ahead of the Lib Dems, Labour, the Greens, the SNP and Plaid combined.

Reform's loss of roughly 18 points and Restore's arrival are close to the same size.

I have a huge amount of respect for Rupert Lowe. He is one of the most sincere men I've ever had the pleasure of meeting and I wish him all the best, however I think the current political system will not allow him to do what he wishes to do.

Deereone, 5 September 2026

Put Reform & Restore voters together & you've got a party with 44% & well ahead

BrianV, 4 September 2026

The Conservative recovery nobody predicted

From **197 votes in January to 119 in September**, but on a much smaller and wider ballot: a like-for-like share of **44.7%**.

It is the single biggest change in the poll, and it happened without a change of Conservative leader.

Members noticed it themselves, and a good number cannot explain it.

I don't remember the Conservatives having anywhere close to a third of the votes last time.

neilo, 6 September 2026

I can understand the Reform and Restore vote but cannot understand the Conservative popularity? They are responsible for the implementation of SFI and ELMS, removal of BPS/SPS?

Jon 2166, 5 September 2026

One farmer in ten will not pick any of them

38 votes, 10.2%, for none of the above, an option that did not exist in January.

Labour is on **11 votes**, down from 14. Eight months and a new Prime Minister have moved it by three.

Where members explain a none of the above vote, they name **APR and BPR, SFI and ELMS**, not personalities.

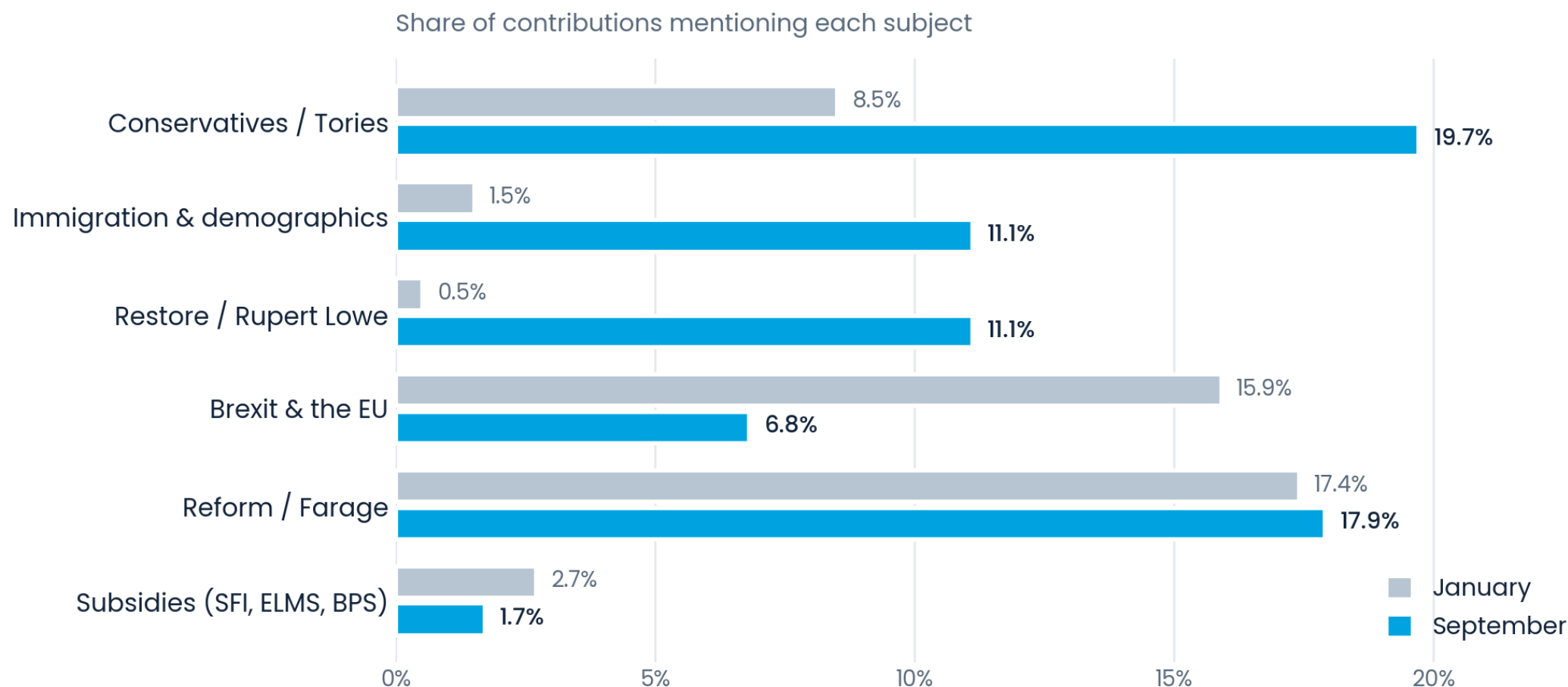
Had to vote none of them, right now. I cannot really vote for the party that was responsible for creating ELMS and SFI ever again. Cannot vote for the party that changed APR/BPR and fundamentally dislikes farming.

Jon 2166, 3 September 2026

In reality if there were a general election then I would probably vote for one but I no idea which right now.

clbarclay, 4 September 2026

The argument has moved on too



Brexit has halved as a subject. Immigration and demographics have gone from a footnote to one contribution in nine. Based on 402 January and 117 September contributions.

What the forum says about its own poll

*the entire idea is to poll the farming vote
which obviously will never reflect the national vote*

Clive, 6 September 2026

*Not surprised. The TFF poll is rather amusing.
Shows more the demographic that uses TFF!??!!*

Selou, 3 September 2026

*I don't think you can draw any sensible analysis
from a total of 230 votes on an internet forum,
whose contributors could be anyone*

Properjob, 4 September 2026

*the incompetent devil's we know were chosen
over the incompetent devils we don't know*

Sharpy, 3 September 2026

How to read these numbers

Different ballots. January offered five parties, September offers nine. Raw shares are not comparable, which is why the like-for-like rebase is used throughout.

Self-selecting sample. Forum members who choose to vote, not a weighted sample of UK farm businesses. 26 of the 48 September contributors also posted in January.

Still open. The September poll was four days old at 373 votes. January took about three weeks to reach 751.

National polls look nothing like this. The poll of polls this week had Labour 25.6%, Reform 23.6% and the Conservatives 20.1%.

Is the farm vote still Reform's to lose?

NOT ANY MORE.

Eight months ago one party held a clear majority of the rural vote on this forum. Today the right is split three ways, the Conservatives are back in front, and one voter in ten will not choose at all. For anyone counting rural seats, that is a harder map to read than January's.

TFF