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## Starmer Outlines Economic Improvement Plan Amid Controversial Foreign Policy Remarks

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Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer has outlined plans aimed at making UK households “better off,” pledging to tackle long-standing economic challenges. The proposals come amid heightened political attention, particularly after Environment Secretary Steve Reed confirmed plans to scrap Ofwat, the Water Services Regulation Authority, in England and Wales, raising questions about regulatory oversight in vital public services.

Starmer’s comments come as part of broader efforts to position Labour as fiscally responsible and focused on delivering tangible benefits for working families. Though

specifics remain limited, he suggested that addressing stagnant wages, reducing cost-of-living pressures, and improving public service efficiency will be central pillars of his economic agenda. His remarks reflect an attempt to reassure both businesses and households that growth and prosperity remain at the heart of Labour's mission.

However, foreign policy interventions have risked overshadowing the domestic message. Foreign Secretary David Lammy, during a joint statement with other diplomats, sharply criticised Israel's conduct in Gaza. Accusing the Israeli government of stripping Gazans "of human dignity", Lammy urged an immediate end to hostilities. The remarks, while aligned with international calls for a ceasefire, may prove divisive among voters who expect a balanced and security-conscious stance on global conflicts.

Meanwhile, Reed's plan to disband Ofwat has sparked debate about the future of water regulation in the UK. Established to oversee water companies and ensure fair pricing and environmental standards, Ofwat's role has come under scrutiny following widespread criticism over sewage discharges and infrastructure failings. Reed's proposed shake-up is said to be part of a broader environmental reform strategy, although details remain sparse.

As Starmer looks to shift public perception and present Labour as the party of economic renewal, such internal and external controversies could distract from the core message. Whether these moves bolster public trust or generate further questions about priorities and governance remains to be seen.