

Does David Cameron have to talk about his father?

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As the [Mail has reported](#) this morning:

David Cameron has come under intense pressure to crack down on offshore tax havens after a massive data leak exposed the scale of efforts by the rich and powerful to hide assets.

The Prime Minister's late father was reported to be among figures - including six peers, three ex-Tory MPs and political party donors - named in relation to investments set up by Panamanian law firm Mossack Fonseca.

Downing Street said it was a "private matter" whether the Cameron family still had funds in offshore investments and insisted the PM was in the vanguard of efforts to increase the transparency of tax arrangements.

I was asked by a journalist about this yesterday and made two points. □

The first is that David Cameron is not responsible for his father and need not account for him. It would be utterly unreasonable to demand that he was. □

But David Cameron is accountable for his own actions and whether or not he has a link to a company using offshore now is a matter of public interest on which there is rightful public concern and he does have an absolute duty to answer the questions raised. □

This is not, as he says, a private matter when it comes to his interests. He is wrong. The public know he is wrong. And the sooner he addresses the point the better it will be for him.