



**Craig Whittaker MP**

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**Brexit: the UK's financial settlement with the EU**

Thank you for contacting me about the issue of the UK's funding commitments to the EU after its withdrawal and the alleged 'Brexit divorce' bill.

The Government will make a fair settlement of the country's rights and obligations in the spirit of the UK's continuing partnership with EU member states. It will honour the commitments it has made during the UK's membership and no EU member state will have to pay more or receive less in the current EU budgetary period because of our withdrawal.

The methodology used to determine the financial settlement is part of the negotiations. We are a law abiding nation and we will observe our legal obligations. We expect obligations to us to be observed too, however, and this is also a matter for negotiation.

Once we have left the EU, it will be for the Government to decide how taxpayers' money is spent. My ministerial colleagues have been clear that, when the UK leaves the EU, it will no longer pay vast contributions to the EU budget. The UK's position with regard to EU finances will form part of the negotiations.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP