



## Craig Whittaker MP

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### **Response to Single market access – February 2017**

Thank you for contacting me about the single market.

I want to be clear that the UK is leaving the EU. The referendum campaign was fought, the vote was held, turnout was high, and the public gave their verdict.

Membership of the EU's single market means accepting its four freedoms: the movement of goods, services, capital and people. It also means complying with the EU's rules and regulations with no say over them. By remaining a member of the single market, the UK would effectively not be leaving the EU at all. It would mean less control for the UK, not more. I welcome the Prime Minister's commitment to take control of our own laws, and likewise take control of our own immigration policy.

Let me reassure you that the UK will continue to trade with the EU. The Government will seek the broadest possible access to the single market in a comprehensive and bold free trade agreement. That agreement may incorporate elements of single market arrangements in some areas because it would not be sensible to start from scratch when the UK and the EU have followed the same rules for so many years. There may also be specific European programmes in which the UK wants to contribute. It is not the Government's intention, however, to contribute vast sums to the EU budget any longer.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP