



**Craig Whittaker MP**

**CALDER VALLEY**

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**The EU Withdrawal Bill and Women's Rights**

Thank you for contacting me about women's rights and the EU Withdrawal Bill.

My ministerial colleagues have assured me that all the protections in the Equality Acts 2006 and 2010 will continue to apply after 2019. We have a proud record of promoting equality and I share the Government's determination that this should continue to apply after we leave the EU.

It is essential that equality is safeguarded within a broad framework of strong legal protections. For that reason, I am glad that the Repeal Bill contains express provision that powers given to ministers could not be used to amend, repeal or revoke the Human Rights Act.

The Government is taking action to help as many women as possible to fulfil their ambitions. Shared parental leave has been introduced, flexible working has been extended and the number of hours of free childcare is being doubled to 30 hours a week.

Thank you again for contacting me about these important issues.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Craig Whittaker'.

Craig Whittaker MP