



Craig Whittaker MP

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Calls for another EU Referendum

Thank you for contacting me about another referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union.

I understand that many people felt strongly that the UK should remain in the EU. Indeed, I voted for Remain myself.

However, the fact remains that the referendum was one of the largest democratic exercises in British history and at 72 per cent, voter turnout was higher than at any general election since 1992. The European Union Referendum Act 2015 was passed by Parliament with 6 votes for to every 1 against. No attempts were made to introduce thresholds for turn-out or outcome. To attempt to remain in the EU would undermine the faith of the British people in the democratic process.

The franchise for the EU referendum was based on the UK Parliamentary franchise. The choice of franchise was debated and agreed by Parliament. The referendum was an issue of national significance and Parliament decided that the general election franchise was the right franchise to use.

I want to be clear that the UK is leaving the EU. The referendum campaign was fought, turnout was high and the public gave its verdict. There will be no attempts to remain inside the EU, no attempts to rejoin it and no second referendum. The country voted to leave the EU and it is the duty of the Government to make sure we do just that.

The withdrawal negotiations have begun and the Government is determined to obtain a withdrawal agreement that works for everyone. This agreement will be put to Parliament before it is concluded.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP