



Craig Whittaker MP

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Leaving the EU without a Deal ('No Deal')

Thank you for contacting me about leaving the EU without a withdrawal deal.

In the referendum last year, the British people voted to leave the EU and the Prime Minister has invoked Article 50. This means that the UK will be leaving the EU in 2019.

I believe that a future partnership between the UK and the EU is in the interests of both sides. As the Prime Minister has explained, a good deal for Britain and a good deal for Europe are not competing alternatives and they are not mutually exclusive. I want to make it absolutely clear, however, that I do not want or expect an outcome with no deal.

A responsible government should, of course, prepare for all eventualities and this is exactly what my ministerial colleagues are doing. This includes the unlikely scenario in which no agreement can be reached. I can also confirm that a total of £3 billion is being made available to prepare for the UK's exit. This is in addition to the nearly £700 million of funding that has already been provided.

Whatever the outcome of the negotiations, I am determined to make the most of the opportunities that leaving the EU presents. We are a global nation and we will be making new trade deals with countries from around the world.

Although I do not want to leave the EU with no deal, I know that the Government's view is that it needs the flexibility to leave without a deal, if a deal is proposed which is not in our best interest.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP