



**Craig Whittaker MP**

**CALDER VALLEY**

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**Brexit Referendum and Alleged Breaches of Electoral Law**

Thank you for contacting me about alleged breaches of electoral law during the EU referendum campaign.

The referendum was one of the largest democratic exercises in the UK's history and over 17.4 million people voted to leave the EU. The Government has been clear that the result must be respected and I fully support this approach.

Allegations of potential breaches of electoral law have focused on whether spending by different referendum campaign groups was fully declared. The independent Electoral Commission oversees the conduct of elections in the UK and regulates political finance. As such, it is for the Electoral Commission rather than for the Government to investigate any breaches of electoral law. As I am sure you can appreciate, I would not wish to comment on an on-going investigation.

The Electoral Commission will publish its findings in due course and the Government will continue to implement the referendum result. Agreement has recently been reached with the EU on citizens' rights, the financial settlement and the implementation period. Discussions on the future relationship between the UK and the EU will begin shortly.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

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

Craig Whittaker MP