

BREXIT: GREENGUARANTEES



WORKING FOR THE BEST DEAL FOR YOU POST-REFERENDUM



Photo: Dave Kellam

MOLLY SCOTT CATO MEP Green MEP for the South West



I know from my mailbag that Brexit is causing confusion and distress for many of the people I represent. People from EU countries who have chosen to make Britain their home are fearing their families will be torn apart. British citizens living in continental Europe also face deep uncertainty over their future.

The divisions and uncertainties the referendum has created need to be addressed and I am working to bring the sides together through a series of meetings across the South West to develop a shared vision of a safe and prosperous future outside the EU.

Brexit is also causing problems for businesses that face uncertainty about their future trading conditions and whether they will be able to find appropriate staff to work in hospitals, hotels, restaurants, in factories and on farms.

I am determined that our environment will be as well protected outside the EU as it is inside and that we will match the climate ambition of our EU neighbours. I am also fighting to protect the future of renewables which should provide lots of economic opportunities; and not be wasted as we rush towards the exit door.

People voted for Brexit on the basis of a number of promises which are being broken on a daily basis. At the end of the negotiations, once we know what Brexit really means, it seems to me a democratic necessity that we are allowed to choose whether that future is better for our country than the alternative of maintaining our membership of the EU.

For more information on my response to Brexit:

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GREENS CANNOT SIGN UP TO THERESA MAY'S EXTREME BREXIT.

TO ENSURE SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE YOUR GREEN MEPS ARE FIGHTING FOR FIVE GREEN GUARANTEES.

WE ARE ALSO CALLING FOR A 'RATIFICATION' REFERENDUM

The government has little or no idea what the alternatives to EU membership will look like. All we do know is that they are leading us towards an extreme form of Brexit which could result in the UK exiting the EU without any deal in place. It is therefore only right and democratic that the people of the UK have an opportunity to accept or reject the future that is on offer at the end of the two-year Article 50 process through a further 'ratification' referendum.



1

ENVIRONMENT

A guarantee that important environmental laws safeguarding our air and water, protecting animals and wildlife habitats, supporting our food and farming sectors and governing our renewable energy targets will be kept or strengthened. Greens call for a new Environmental Protection Act, a new Clean Air Act, and a reformed farming subsidy scheme that puts sustainable agriculture first. These protections must be legally enforced.

2

FREE MOVEMENT

A guarantee that the rights of all EU nationals living in the UK and all UK citizens living in the EU will be upheld; we cannot let Brexit break up families and tear apart our communities. Greens believe in defending the principle of Free Movement; a right that millions of UK and EU citizens enjoy. The Government must also uphold its moral and legal duties towards refugees in the face of an unprecedented humanitarian crisis; we must reverse our decision to abandon child refugees.

3

YOUNG PEOPLE

A guarantee that young people will continue to enjoy the freedom to travel, study and work across Europe and access to EU-funded schemes such as Erasmus and student exchanges.

4

TAX AND TRADE

A guarantee that the UK will not engage in a race to the bottom on tax rates, workers' rights or consumer protections. We want cast iron assurances that the Government will not sign Britain up to damaging new international trade deals that hand power to multinational corporations. As Greens we believe that the protection of jobs, the environment, and workers' rights is most easily achieved by remaining inside the single market.

5

DEMOCRACY

A guarantee of electoral and constitutional reform. The EU referendum was supposed to signal the start of a democratic process and Greens believe now is the time for democratic renewal. We want a Great Reform Bill, to deliver a fair and proportional election system, reform of the House of Lords, to combat its democratic deficit, and a written constitution.