



19th March 2019

Dear Prime Minister,

You have done everything possible to get your Brexit deal through Parliament. The Party and public - I'm sure - appreciate your commitment and perseverance.

Your proposal, however, has not only been rejected overwhelmingly on two occasions but it has now - to all intents and purposes - been ruled out by the Speaker. In such circumstances, I would urge you to remember your duty to the British people and exhort you to offer them and us, some clarity on what the Government will negotiate for at the European Council on Thursday.

A few weeks' extension will change nothing in such a high-stakes and complex situation as this. It risks prolonging the agony and frustration of the public, antagonising our European partners and leaving businesses in perilous uncertainty.

I urge you, therefore, please ask the EU Council this Thursday for a significant extension to Article 50, long enough for us to have a real chance to negotiate with a new Commission later this year to agree a more credible and practical proposal in Parliament. In this circumstance, we would be doing so with our voice and veto intact, so we will be in a much stronger position than we otherwise would be.

This is, surely, the only responsible course of action at this point and one I'm sure that most colleagues would support you in fully - as would I - before putting it back to the British people for a final say.

Parliament needs to know your intentions in Brussels this Thursday, ideally by addressing the House of Commons as early as possible.

Yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phillip Lee', enclosed within a large, loopy, handwritten flourish.

Dr Phillip Lee MP
Chair, Right To Vote

Right To Vote

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