



BRINGING BRITAIN BACK TOGETHER

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INTRODUCTION

Almost two years after the referendum, the government still has no plan for the UK's future. People across the country are left asking what Brexit will mean for them.

After months of confusion, it's time to bring clarity to the process for UK citizens.

That is why we have published this document. It aims to offer a clear path for our country, and gives direction where there has been too much indecision. It is a proposal for how we can deal with Brexit once and for all, in a way that benefits everyone.

It begins with a very clear **call to action**, summarising what we believe needs to happen in order for us to get a people's vote by March 2019. The background to this call to action is set out fully in our **open letter to the British people** inviting them to demand a clear path forward. We set out the parliamentary process with **a roadmap**, showing how politicians can deliver a people's vote – the only way that we believe the future of Britain in Europe can be decided fairly by the end of March 2019. It also includes **a table comparing the proposed Brexit deal with our current arrangements as an EU member state** – something that we hope the public, politicians, and press alike will find informative.

Finally, we set out **our position** as an organisation, and why we will be fighting for the UK to stay and lead in the EU, and for a people's vote that makes the choice clear between the government's deal and our current terms.

We will continue to connect people with their MPs across the UK. Sign up today at **www.bestforbritain.org**.

OUR CALL TO ACTION

- 1. The Prime Minister needs to lay out her proposals for leaving.** The country needs to challenge Theresa May to come back in the autumn with a clear proposal that both parliament and the people can vote on. Internal cabinet and party divisions can no longer be allowed to hold the country hostage.
- 2. The deal must be clear about our relationship with Europe.** Comparing the government's Brexit position on a range of issues to our current EU membership arrangements will enable the British public to understand the choice in front of them. This would be the first time a vote will have taken place with detail attached.
- 3. The deal must have the backing of the EU and the UK must still have a choice.** Any deal that comes to parliament must have the endorsement of the EU member states. Whatever deal is put to parliament, MPs must have the space to debate, challenge, and compare it to our current status as members of the EU.
- 4. In the autumn, parliament must vote on the deal and agree to a people's vote.** Government and parliament should introduce a people's vote to take place before the end of the negotiating period. Citizens should have the final say between the government's deal and our current terms.
- 5. In 2019, a different kind of people's vote campaign must be fought, without the mistakes of the past.** We cannot have a re-run of the 2016 vote. It must be a vote the like of which Britain has never seen before, with more stringent rules on digital campaigning, and citizens' assemblies used to inform and encourage debate.
- 6. A people's vote must be held before March 29 2019 to decide our country's future.** Parliament's vote on the deal in the autumn would be advisory. The people's vote will decide if the terms negotiated with Brussels are better than the deal that we already have.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE COUNTRY

8 June 2018

Dear fellow citizens,

Today, one year on from the 2017 General Election, uncertainty is as great a threat to the UK as Brexit itself. As a country we face the prospect of this extending for years through opaque negotiations and a protracted process, with which those outside the Westminster bubble have already lost patience. Whatever side you voted for in the 2016 referendum, the overwhelming feeling in the country today is let's get on with it.

People from all walks of life and all sectors of our economy want clarity. Our health service, home builders and farms are experiencing shortages of labour. Our industrial and service sectors are unable to plan ahead, affecting our jobs and prospects. Whether it is the car industry, pharmaceuticals, financial services, the creative industries or others, the need for certainty about our future trade arrangements is getting urgent. Every day it becomes increasingly clear the government has no plan.

The government is hanging on in the negotiations by a thread. At such a time of crisis, other voices would usually speak out and help the country change course. A few brave politicians are doing this publicly. Meanwhile, the rest stay silent or peddle tribal lines.

Our political system is only just starting to challenge the government's approach. This is the most important national decision for decades, and the government's ship is rudderless. On the opposition benches, Labour is dithering.

There is no clarity, no deadline and no certainty on Brexit. No debate on the facts, just manoeuvring around the process. Brexit is taking longer, costing more and dominating our politics to an extent no one envisaged. People are sick of it, and with every delay and misstep by our government, the process is delayed further.

Just under two years ago, the referendum result gave the British establishment a kick in the teeth. Brexit divided the country in two. But the dreams of the vast majority of people had been shattered years before. The tilting of the nation's economic growth towards London, the withering of the welfare state, and the rise of mega corporations left your average Briton vulnerable, sometimes exploited and often feeling poorer than previous generations.

There remains an awkward stigma associated with the referendum vote. For many of us it's still difficult to broach a conversation about Brexit with loved ones who voted a different way - a societal wound that has yet to heal. But beneath the surface, more and more people simply want to do what's best for the UK and for Brexit to be dealt with as quickly as possible so we can move on as a country.

Brexit tore us apart and we need to mend. Yes, more than 17 million people voted to leave, but almost half of those who went to the polls opted to stay. Around 28% of the electorate did not vote at all, and the demographics of the vote expose how divided we are. This was primarily a generational divide. For many who lost, it seemed to pit the future against the past, as under 45s voted in similarly overwhelming proportions to stay as over 65s did to leave. At Best for Britain we believe that our current membership arrangements with Europe are the best platform from which to build a common future, and the majority of young people agree. Polling evidence highlights this demographic divide ever more widely. However, we understand and respect that many others hold a different view: they believe that a form of leaving the EU would leave us better off.

But if the present chaotic politics continues unchecked we should agree, whatever our view of Brexit, that Britain's future is in jeopardy. There is a risk that the entire establishment sleepwalks the country over the Brexit finish line in March 2019, thinking that any small mitigation of the government's Brexit is a measure of success. Because it will take years for the real arrangements and their effects to kick in, the British economy will just bleed out over time. Theresa May cannot unite her party; Jeremy Corbyn has not yet embraced full opposition to the Brexit project.

This great uncertainty comes at a time when there are crises within - and also outside - Europe. Putin's cyber-attacks undermine European cohesion. Trump's imposition of tariffs and clumsy diplomacy with nuclear powers create new instabilities. Relations with China, dependence on Russian energy and European rearmament are issues where the UK's voice should be heard at the European table.

After March 29 2019, our option to stay in will disappear. It is only right that the people get to decide whether to forfeit our current deal after having the opportunity to compare it to the Brexit deal. It's simple: may the best deal win.

We need a decisive answer, quickly. Brexit must not be allowed to hijack our country for a generation. We believe the Brexit process is distracting from the many reasons people voted to leave: a kick back against Westminster to wake up to the reality of life in modern Britain - an industrial wasteland in parts of our country and the loss of good jobs, a weakening health service, unaffordable housing, and rising student debt. With technological change and rising global political risk the need for new ideas to address our national problems has rarely been greater. None of these problems will solve themselves, and yet we are stuck in the Brexit cul-de-sac.

At Best for Britain we believe these problems are far harder to solve from outside the EU than within it. Keeping close to our neighbours helps, not hinders us, in addressing our challenges. But we recognise and respect that others think differently. That is why we are proposing a national conversation leading up to a people's vote on the final Brexit terms intended to resolve our disagreements about Brexit decisively and restore certainty to our national life.

This is our six-point proposal to bring the Brexit deal home, to provide for a people's vote and to deliver clarity and certainty for the future of every UK citizen and resident:

1. **The Prime Minister needs to lay out her proposals for leaving.** She also needs to hear that delay and confusion are no longer available as a strategy. Parliament will deliver its input into the Brexit negotiations in a series of votes next week. The country needs to challenge Theresa May to come back in the autumn with a clear proposal that both parliament and the people can vote on. Her internal cabinet and party divisions can no longer be allowed to hold the country hostage.
2. **The Prime Minister's deal must be clear about our relationship with the EU,** including on the customs union and single market. The government should present their proposals for:
 - which sectors will or won't enjoy frictionless trade and for how long
 - safeguarding the vital importance of public services to the British economy
 - maintaining integrated EU supply chains in our important manufacturing sectors such as the car industry
 - the freedom of movement of people
 - further changes to our EU budget contributions
 - our participation, or otherwise, in EU specialised agencies and programmes we haven't yet declared we are leaving
 - both safeguarding our access to clinical trials and to vital medicines and treatments
 - outlining the specialised arrangements that will govern Northern Ireland's trade with Ireland in a manner that protects the Good Friday Agreement
 - our participation in European defence technology and cyber security projects
 - which specialised agencies, programmes and sectors will be allowed to come under jurisdiction of the ECJ
 - what visas and other arrangements will cover sectors such as frontline NHS staffing, teaching and social care.

Comparing the government's position on these issues to our current arrangements will enable the British public to understand the choice in front of them – the first time a vote would take place with detail attached.

3. **The Prime Minister's deal must have the backing of the EU and the UK must still have a choice.** The Prime Minister must seek and secure the support of the EU27 fellow leaders before putting her deal to parliament and the people even though the approval of their own parliaments will necessarily follow our people's vote. If the government decides that no deal is the 'Leave' option it would like to put to parliament, then the vote should be between that and our current EU membership status.
4. **In the autumn, parliament must vote on the deal and agree to a people's vote.** Government and parliament should introduce a people's vote to take place before the end of the negotiating period. In addition to parliament's vote on the deal, citizens would then have the right to decide between the government's deal and our current EU terms. The people's vote needs to take place within the current negotiating period, before the end of March 2019 in order that the government would have the chance to withdraw from the Brexit process before March 29 2019. The EU should signal it would be flexible to accommodate the outcome of a people's vote. If the rejection of the Withdrawal Agreement and Implementation Bill or another parliamentary vote were to precipitate an election, all major parties should commit to putting the Brexit deal to the people in their manifestos.
5. **In 2019, a different kind of people's vote campaign must learn from the mistakes of 2016.** Both sides of a people's vote campaign must respect voters – and be subject to much more stringent policing of campaign rules - in a way that was absent in the 2016 vote. No Project Fear, no false claims on the side of buses. No lack of policing of digital campaigning. Rather an urgent national enquiry into the trade-offs and pros and cons of a deal that will decisively shape our national future. Campaigners on both sides must make their case around a real vision of our future, in or out of the EU. This would be a national conversation held in village halls, market stalls and school gyms, with debates and citizens' assemblies, not just chatter on the political shows that feed Westminster gossip. Real facts should be presented to voters about the government's deal compared to the existing deal we have as EU members. The decision to hold a people's vote means everyone, whatever their view, can have a fair say on the final terms – their voice can be heard.
6. **A people's vote must be held before March 29 2019 to decide our country's future.** Whatever doubts many harbour about referenda, and particularly another vote on Brexit, the vote in 2016 triggered the Brexit negotiating process, so the people must now have the final say two years later. The vote will decide whether the terms negotiated by the government are better than those we already have. In the opinion research we, and others, have done among those who were neither hard core remainers or leavers, the persistent complaint has been that we have not yet been told what we were voting for. The Prime Minister must tell us. Then she must put her deal to the people for their final say on the biggest issue for generations.

What we want is a vote for the people by the people on what leaving the EU will actually mean. To call for such a vote is not idealistic. Our ask today is for people to support this plan as a clear choice with detail attached, with a timeline that allows our country to look before we leap, and if we want to, take a different path.

This path is not without risk – a growing majority of people now want to stay in the EU, but it's not yet decisive. The greater risk to our country is the continued uncertainty undermining our society and economy at home, and our political standing abroad. A people's vote need not be the fractious, painful, and dishonest experience it was two years ago. The recent case study of Ireland shows how an emotive debate with radically differing views, also along generational lines, can be successful and delicately handled, even in the full throttle of a campaign period.

Through a series of national conversation events we will unite people in debate, in telling the human experiences behind the dry policy choices on the table, and in discussion with each other. By forging a link between the people and the MPs who represent them, we will bridge the chasm that has for too long existed between the rulers and the ruled in the UK – particularly in the poorest areas. By telling it straight we will ensure that people can make up their own minds on what they want for Britain.

As the deadline for the final decision approaches, the public's opinion is shifting in favour of having their first real say on the facts of what Brexit will actually mean. This decision is too important to leave to the politicians alone. For all our sakes, closure is needed, and so we appeal to those on all sides of the argument to join us in promoting this way forward to get us Brexit clarity as soon as possible. We must end the chaos of Brexit and focus minds on bridging the divide in our country and repairing our society.

Handled carefully, a people's vote can help bring us back together. It's time to trust the will of the people with the terms of Brexit.

Mark Malloch Brown, Chairman

Eloise Todd, CEO

On behalf of Best for Britain



ROADMAP TO A PEOPLE'S VOTE

OCT

Prime Minister brings Brexit deal to parliament as Withdrawal Agreement and Implementation Bill (WAIB)

Parliament amends motion to call for people's vote

People's vote Bill introduced by government and passed by the parliament, stating that a vote to stay in the EU would commit the government to automatically revoke Article 50

WAIB continues through parliamentary process, finalised before 29 March 2019 *

JAN 2019

National conversation launched (early 2019)

Hold people's vote (before 29 March 2019)

MARCH

UK votes against the terms of the deal. Government revokes Article 50 letter before 29 March 2019

UK votes for the terms of the deal. Britain leaves EU on 29 March 2019

* If the rejection of the WAIB (or any other Bill) were to take place and precipitated a General Election, we would call on all major parties to include a commitment to a People's Vote in their manifesto.

COMPARING OUR CURRENT EU TERMS WITH THE EXPECTED BREXIT DEAL

The table below shows the comparisons that the public and politicians need to see before they can make an informed decision on whether to accept the terms of the deal that the government negotiates. As more information becomes available, the differences between the government's terms and our current membership terms should become even clearer. This will help the public understand what they would stand to gain or lose from either deal and enable them to make an informed decision.

ISSUE	CURRENT EU TERMS	EXPECTED DEAL
<p>Status and influence within the EU</p>	<p>Since 1973, the UK has been a Member State of the European Union (EU).</p> <p>The UK has been judged one of the most successful countries in shaping EU laws, particularly on issues of importance to the UK.²</p> <p>Special privileges have been granted to the UK:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • budget rebate negotiated by Margaret Thatcher • opt-outs from the Schengen Area • opt out of the Euro • opt-out of the Social Charter <p>Other policy areas in the EU are subject to unanimity at the request of the UK including taxation and immigration policy.</p>	<p>Very limited information available. According to Theresa May's Mansion House speech in March 2018¹ and other official sources, the key features should include:</p> <p>After leaving the EU on 29 March 2019, the UK would become what the EU treaties define as a "third country".</p> <p>As a third country, the UK would have no official decision-making power over EU decision-making. Even in the EEA, the UK would not have formal access to the decision-making process of the EU institutions. EEA countries can neither sit nor vote in the European Parliament or the European Council.³</p> <p>The EU and the UK have agreed a transition period: roughly two years between withdrawal from the EU in March 2019 and the start of a new relationship. During this period the UK would already have become a third country but would continue to follow EU rules, pay into the EU budget and abide by rulings of the European Court of Justice (ECJ).</p>
<p>EU Budget</p>	<p>In 2016, the UK's net contribution to the EU amounted to £9.4bn, representing 1.2% of government spending or 39p per person per day. £13.9 billion was transferred from the UK government to the EU (gross contribution was £18.9bn, rebate £5bn). £4.4 billion was however credited back to the UK public sector, of which a proportion was then paid to the private sector, taking the UK net contribution to £9.4 bn.⁴ This figure however doesn't include EU money that comes back directly to the UK private sector (for example, to fund research in UK universities).⁵</p> <p>The 1985 rebate reduced the UK's contribution to the EU budget by 66%: the slack was picked up by the other states. Blair slightly reduced the rebate in 2005 in return for reforms of the Common Agricultural Policy.</p>	<p>Theresa May has confirmed that the UK would continue making contributions into the EU budget in order to get "associate membership" to key agencies as well as access to some research, educational and cultural programmes.⁷ How much this would amount to will not be clear until we have more clarity on what agencies, programmes and areas of cooperation the UK would retain access to. But this would definitely come on top of the Brexit divorce bill that would total £37.1bn, and would have to be paid back until at least 2064.⁸</p> <p>It is very unlikely that the UK would continue to benefit from the rebate it has secured as a Member State.</p>

¹ PM speech on our future economic partnership with the European Union', March 2018, <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-speech-on-our-future-economic-partnership-with-the-european-union>

² Simon Hix, 'Is the UK Marginalised in the EU?', October 2015, <http://ukandeu.ac.uk/explainers/is-the-uk-marginalised-in-the-eu-2/>

³ 'The Basic Features of the EEA Agreement', EFTA website, <http://www.efta.int/eea/eea-agreement/eea-basic-features>

⁴ ONS, 'The UK Contribution to the EU Budget', October 2017, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/governmentpublicsectorandtaxes/publicsectorfinance/articles/theukcontributiontothebudget/2017-10-31>

⁵ Ibid

⁶ House of Commons Library, 'The UK's contribution to the EU budget', March 2018, <https://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/CBP-7886>

⁷ 'PM speech on our future economic partnership with the European Union', op.cit.

⁸ OBR, 'Economic and Fiscal Outlook', March 2018, http://cdn.obr.uk/EFO-MaRch_2018.pdf

<p>Single Market and Customs Union</p>	<p>The EU Single Market and Customs Union have given the UK access to the world's largest market. In 2017, UK exports to the EU amounted to £276 billion (44% of all UK exports). UK imports from the EU totalled £347 billion (53% of all UK imports).⁹</p> <p>3.5 million jobs in the UK are linked to the export of goods and services to the EU.¹⁰</p> <p>Increased trade with Europe between the early 1980s and the late 2010s may be linked to 6% higher income per capita in the UK - £3,300 a year per British household.¹¹</p>	<p>Under current plans, the UK would leave the Single Market and Customs Union. The government's Brexit impact assessments expects GDP to decline across the country once this happens. The North East, West Midlands, and Northern Ireland should expect 11%, 16%, and 8% dip in growth respectively.¹²</p> <p>The government has considered several future customs arrangements. Theresa May's favourite option is a 'customs partnership' under which the UK would charge EU tariffs at its border for goods destined to the EU. The trader would be able to claim back a refund if the goods ended up in the UK and the UK tariff was lower.¹³ The EU has dismissed this option because it would be costly for members and traders, and has too little time to get it started. Other options that have been considered are the 'Maximum Facilitation' (Max Fac) system that would re-introduce a customs border, including in Ireland, but would rely on technology to minimise border checks, as well as the 'Maximum Facilitation 2' (Max Fac 2) system that would involve a 10-mile buffer zone around the Irish border as well as Northern Ireland having joint EU-UK status so it can trade freely with both. The government hasn't been able to agree on any of these options, mostly because of the Irish border issue, nor have they received backing from the EU.</p>
<p>ECJ jurisdiction</p>	<p>The ECJ ensures EU law is interpreted and applied the same way in every member state.</p> <p>The Court of Justice comprises one judge from each EU Member State, as well as eleven Advocates General.</p> <p>The General Court comprises 47 judges. In 2019 this will be increased to 56, two judges from each EU member state.</p>	<p>Theresa May has made ending the jurisdiction of the ECJ in the UK one of her red lines in the Brexit negotiations. It has become increasingly clear that this would not be possible. In her Mansion House Speech, she said "Even after we have left the jurisdiction of the ECJ, EU law and the decisions of the ECJ will continue to affect us."¹⁴ For example, "associate membership" to key agencies would require accepting the jurisdiction of the ECJ in relevant matters.¹⁵</p> <p>After we leave the EU, the Withdrawal Bill would bring EU law into UK law. That means cases would be determined in our courts. But, where appropriate, our courts would continue to look at the ECJ's judgments, as they do for the appropriate jurisprudence of other countries' courts.</p>

⁹ House of Commons Library, 'Statistics on UK-EU trade', May 2018, <https://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/CBP-7851>

¹⁰ BIS and DFID, 'The UK and the Single Market. Trade and Investment Analytical Papers', https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/43314/11-719-uk-and-single-market.pdf

¹¹ Ibid

¹² 'EU Exit Analysis', Cross Whitehall Briefing, January 2018, <https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/Exiting-the-European-Union/17-19/Cross-Whitehall-briefing/EU-Exit-Analysis-Cross-Whitehall-Briefing.pdf>

¹³ HM Government, 'Future customs arrangements: A Future Partnership Paper', https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/637748/Future_customs_arrangements_-_a_future_partnership_paper.pdf

¹⁴ PM speech on our future economic partnership with the European Union, op.cit.

¹⁵ 'PM speech on our future economic partnership with the European Union', op.cit.

<p>Irish Border</p>	<p>The common UK-Irish EU membership has played an important role in underpinning and safeguarding the Good Friday Agreement (GFA), and has helped dilute cross-community tensions in Northern Ireland.¹⁶</p> <p>Much of the GFA was based on the EU Convention on Human Rights. Northern Ireland is more dependent on EU funding than any other region of the UK and the anticipated loss of that funding is expected to have a devastating impact on the region's economy and thus stability.¹⁷</p>	<p>The government has promised to ensure no physical border in Northern Ireland, but has failed to provide any practical solutions to achieve that.</p> <p>It must be assumed that leaving the EU Customs Union would create a hard border because the legal guarantees of regulatory equivalence, mutual recognition, and non-barriers would require checks. This would have dangerous implications for the Good Friday Agreement.</p>
<p>Freedom of movement</p>	<p>While allowing UK citizens to work, study, and live abroad, freedom of movement has also contributed to the health of our economy and public services. A UCL study found that EU migrants contribute £20bn more in taxes than they receive in any form of benefits¹⁸ and 10% of doctors and 7% of nurses in the UK are EU nationals.¹⁹ Some vital specialised jobs rely on EU citizens for up to a quarter or a fifth of their staff (paediatric cardiologists: 28%; cardio-thoracic surgeons: 24%; clinical neurophysiologist: 22%; neurosurgeons: 20%).²⁰</p> <p>There is a range of limits to freedom of movement that the UK currently has the power to implement but chooses not to. In countries like Denmark and Belgium, there are rules stating that EU nationals must move on from the country if they have not found a job within four months.²¹</p> <p>The EU has undertaken reforms of its freedom of movement rules. For example, the EU has recently adopted a revision of the Posted Workers Directive requiring firms to comply with local standards when workers are posted temporarily to another EU country (equal pay for equal work in the same place).²²</p>	<p>Both Theresa May and Jeremy Corbyn have maintained that on leaving the EU freedom of movement would end.</p> <p>The immediate impacts of this are already being felt in our health service. Between April 2017 and March 2018, 3,962 EU midwives and nurses left the UK. Over the same period only 805 joined the UK compared with 6,382 the previous year.²³</p> <p>The Nursing and Midwifery Council surveyed 3,496 EU nurses and midwives who left between June and November 2017 - 47% cited Brexit as one of their top reasons for leaving.²⁴ A survey by the General Medical Council of over 2,100 EEA doctors in 2017 found that 61% were considering leaving the country, of which 90% attributed to Brexit.²⁵</p> <p>This is particularly concerning as the NHS is already suffering from a staff crisis with 1 in 11 posts currently vacant and could require an extra 3,500 doctors every year in the next decade.²⁶</p>

¹⁶ House of Lords, European Union Committee, 'Brexit: UK-Irish relations', December 2016, <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201617/ldselect/ldcom/76/7602.htm>

¹⁷ Ibid

¹⁸ Christian Dustmann and Tommaso Frattini, 'EU migrants contribute £20bn more in taxes than they receive in any form of benefits', November 2014, <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/news/news-articles/1114/051114-economic-impact-EU-immigration>

¹⁹ House of Commons Library, 'NHS staff from overseas: statistics', February 2018, <https://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/CBP-7783>

²⁰ Best for Britain estimates based on: Global Future, 'Our International Health Service', June 2018, <http://ourglobalfuture.com/reports/our-international-health-service/>

²¹ Harvey Redgrave, 'EU Migration: Examining the Evidence and Policy Choices', September 2018, Tony Blair Institute For Global Change, https://institute.global/sites/default/files/inline-files/IGC_EU%20Migration_20.09.17.pdf

²² Council of the EU, 'Posting of workers: Council confirms the compromise text agreed with the European Parliament', April 2018, <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/04/11/posting-of-workers-council-confirms-the-compromise-text-agreed-with-the-european-parliament/>

²³ The Nursing and Midwifery Council, 'The NMC Register', March 2018, <https://www.nmc.org.uk/globalassets/sites/default/files/other-publications/the-nmc-register-2018.pdf>

²⁴ Ibid

²⁵ General Medical Council, 'The state of medical education and practice in the UK', 2017, <https://www.gmc-uk.org/-/media/about/somep-2017-final-full.pdf>

²⁶ Global Future, 'Our International Health Service', op.cit.

<p>Euratom</p>	<p>As a member of the EU the UK has a seat at Euratom, the organisation which ensures the security of atomic energy supply in Europe.</p> <p>Benefits include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uniform standards of safety for transportation of nuclear materials • Protection of nuclear energy supply networks • Sharing of research into nuclear energy. 	<p>Theresa May has confirmed the UK's intention to leave Euratom.²⁷</p> <p>Without an appropriate replacement, British power stations may not be able to source nuclear fuel. The transportation of other nuclear materials may also end. This would put UK patients at risk of losing access to nuclear isotopes used in cancer treatments and medical imaging.</p>
<p>Passporting rights</p>	<p>Passporting rights allow UK finance firms to sell their products across the EU. This offers access to 500 million citizens and 22 million firms.</p>	<p>Theresa May ruled out continuing passporting after Brexit. The threat of losing passporting rights has been the biggest concern for the finance industry that accounts for 6.5% of total UK economic output and 1.1 million jobs.²⁸ 35,000 jobs could be at risk, along with £5 billion of tax revenues per annum.²⁹</p>
<p>Fighting terrorist networks</p>	<p>The European Arrest Warrant (EAW) allows EU countries to extradite people between Member States to face prosecution for a crime, or to serve a prison sentence.³⁰ Since 2004, the UK has surrendered over 10,000 individuals under the EAW.³¹ The EAW has brought high-profile criminals back to the UK, such as Hussain Osman, who attempted to carry out a terror attack in London in July 2005.³²</p>	<p>Only EU member states have access to the EAW and as a third country the UK is expected to no longer be a party</p> <p>In principle, the UK intention to remove the jurisdiction of the ECJ in the UK would also make the EAW inapplicable to the UK as the ECJ oversees the EAW.</p> <p>The government is seeking to agree a new bespoke security arrangement with the EU.³³ The EU has expressed its willingness to conclude a new extradition treaty. However, it would have more limited scope and would not apply to all EU Member States as 18 EU countries' constitutions, including France and Germany, bar the extradition of their own nationals to third countries.</p>

²⁷ PM Letter triggering Article 50, March 2017, https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/604079/Prime_Ministers_letter_to_European_Council_President_Donald_Tusk.pdf

²⁸ House of Commons Library, 'Financial services: contribution to the UK economy', April 2018, <http://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/SN06193>

²⁹ The CityUK, 'The impact of the UK's exit from the EU on the UK-based financial services sector', October 2016, <https://www.thecityuk.com/news/the-impact-of-the-uks-exit-from-the-eu-on-the-uk-based-financial-services-sector/>

³⁰ 'Extradition from the UK: European arrest warrant (EAW)', <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/extradition-processes-and-review#extradition-from-the-uk-european-arrest-warrant-eaw>

³¹ HM Government, Framework for the UK-EU Security Partnership, May 2018, https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/705687/2018-05-0_security_partnership_slides__SI__FINAL.pdf

³² Lords Select Committee, 'Brexit: judicial oversight of the European Arrest Warrant', 2017, https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201719/ldselect/1deucom/16/1603.htm#_idTextAnchor003

³³ HM Government, Framework for the UK-EU Security Partnership, op.cit.

<p>Food Safety</p>	<p>As a Member State, the UK has benefited from the EU's high food safety standards.</p> <p>The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) was set up in 2002 following a series of food crises in the late 1990s. EFSA produces scientific opinions and advice that form the basis for European food policies and legislation.</p> <p>The EU's Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF) database was set up in 1979 to enable a swift reaction when risks to public health are detected in the food chain. The database provides a round-the-clock service for food safety notifications.</p>	<p>The UK is likely to lose access to the EU RASFF database and the European Food Safety Authority.</p> <p>As the UK negotiates trade agreements with non-EU countries, including the US, it may decide to accept products into the UK which are not currently permitted under EU law, for example hormone and antibiotic-treated meat, genetically modified foods, or chlorinated chicken.</p> <p>Delays at the border due to the re-introduction of customs checks between the EU and the UK could also have food safety implications and shorten the shelf life of chilled goods.</p>
<p>EU Digital Single Market</p>	<p>The EU Digital Single Market aims to reduce barriers when using online tools and services across the EU.</p> <p>It has brought a range of benefits including the abolition of mobile roaming charges across the EU in June 2017.³⁴ The UK government claimed to have played a leading role in securing this deal.³⁵ The EU also adopted a regulation to ban unjustified geo-blocking – requiring retailers to give online shoppers access to goods and services on the same terms all over the EU, regardless of where they are connecting from.³⁶</p>	<p>Theresa May has confirmed that the UK would no longer be part of the EU's Digital Single Market.</p> <p>British consumers would experience roaming surcharges when travelling across the EU again. An average business trip to an EU country could translate into surcharges for using mobile data between £195 to £778 (no VAT included).³⁷ UK residents made 52,954 visits to the EU in 2016.³⁸ After Brexit, British consumers won't benefit from the new EU regulation on geo-blocking due to come into force at the end of this year.</p>

³⁴ European Commission, 'Roaming', <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/roaming>

³⁵ UK Government Press Release, 'UK consumers better off in EU from today as roaming charges down to near zero', April 2016, <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-consumers-better-off-in-eu-from-today-as-roaming-charges-down-to-near-zero>

³⁶ EUR-Lex, 'Geoblocking: a new regulation enters into force', March 2018, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/content/news/geo-blocking-regulation-enters-into-force.html>

³⁷ Best For Britain estimates

³⁸ ONS, 'Travel Trends 2017', May 2017, <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/leisureandtourism/articles/traveltrends/2016>

BEST FOR BRITAIN'S POSITION

- **Best for Britain wants young people to steer Britain into the future**

Young people voted by a huge margin to stay in the EU. Tomorrow's doctors, nurses, teachers, leaders and parents should have the right to have a say on their future. Young people know that they must stand together with the rising generations in other EU countries to maintain and improve our way of life. Europe needs us as much as we need them at this time of political turmoil. Our future generations should be part of reforming the EU, not stuck on the outside playing catch-up. Some older people still hark back to parochial nationalism of the 20th century, but young people cannot afford to do this because their future is at stake. We are on their side.

- **Best for Britain is committed to finding a democratic way to stop Brexit**

Best for Britain is a group of campaigners, businesspeople, entrepreneurs and citizens from across our country who have come together with one single mission: to oppose and stop Brexit through a transparent democratic process. Our strategy depends on convincing people – and especially young people – to become actively engaged in the Brexit debate and to mobilise others. We are succeeding, because a growing majority of the country, having discovered what it means in practice, now want to see Brexit stopped. We are connecting people and campaigning organisations across the country to one another and to their MPs, so that their voices will be heard when it comes to the parliamentary vote in the autumn of 2018.

- **Best for Britain supports a final say by parliament and then by the people**

Since our formation in late 2016 we have been focused on winning a meaningful vote in parliament that would allow MPs to reject any Brexit deal that is less good for the country than our current relationship with the EU. We will campaign for parliament to reject any Brexit proposal that does not deliver the same benefits as we now enjoy as a member of the EU. We will also support a people's vote to make the final decision on whether to accept the terms of Brexit or keep our current deal with the EU. This vote is likely to be held towards the end of this year. Time is short.

- **Best for Britain is fighting to stay in the EU, not to compromise on a Soft Brexit**

As the government's plan for a Hard Brexit "clean break" from all EU institutions collides with economic and political realities, sentiment in political circles is growing for a "Soft Brexit". But it is becoming increasingly clear that any form of Brexit is bad for Britain. We believe that the best way to fight for a better Britain and a better Europe is from within the EU. For more than two decades Britain has enjoyed the best economic performance in Europe by leading the creation of the single market, without being forced to adopt the Euro and lose our currency freedom. The only way for the UK to keep this privileged position is by avoiding Brexit. If we left the EU and applied to rejoin later, we would never be offered the same uniquely favourable terms.

- **Best for Britain believes that Britain and Europe's successes are linked**

The economic case for staying in the EU is very strong and it is becoming clearer as people see their jobs threatened and their incomes eaten away by inflation and a falling pound. The political case for staying in the EU is more complicated. The EU and Britain are both facing political challenges. These challenges are connected and both sides would be better off if they stayed together. The UK and Europe share the same democratic values, which are threatened by authoritarian tendencies on Europe's borders, in Russia, Turkey and the Middle East. Britain remaining at the heart of Europe means more security against international attacks, more cooperation to stop terrorist networks and more success breaking criminal networks.

- **Best for Britain wants what is best for Britain, not best for politicians or their political parties**

We believe that many people voted to leave because of frustration about our country's neglected social and economic problems, and for some it was a kick against the EU itself. They felt their complaints about inequality and the absence of opportunity were not being heard and that an out of touch establishment based in London was governing in its own interests and not the wider interests of the country. But leaving the EU is not the answer. It would limit our economic future at a time when we need to increase our means to address these pressing issues and it consumes the political debate when our politicians should be debating solutions to Britain's problems. The politics of Brexit are extremely complicated - new problems keep cropping up in the negotiations and distracting attention from the genuine challenges of globalisation, financial instability, government austerity, technology and social change which are transforming life in the UK and our position in the world. The Brexit debate distracts from resolving these genuine challenges, both at home and abroad. We need to get past it and move on with the task of building a fairer and more inclusive Britain. The distraction will only be removed if Britain remains a member of the EU and Britain's true problems are understood and resolved, not side-lined by theoretical arguments over Europe. Our future and the future of our children depends on it.