

Protect the Rights of Ealing's European Residents

Motion to Full Council meeting, 24th April 2018:

Ealing Council notes:

- 60% of Ealing residents voted to remain in the European Union.
- There are over 30,000 European citizens living in Ealing who have been denied their say on Brexit and whose rights to live and work in the UK are under threat.
- The local elections on May 3rd 2018 may be the last vote we have before the UK is due to be taken out of the European Union.
- Recent polling has shown that Brexit and its impact on the economy is the number one concern of Londoners.
- Economic studies have shown that London will lose up to 8% of its GDP as a result of Brexit.
- Ealing has a substantial Irish population who do not want to see the reintroduction of a hard border between north and south.
- Theresa May insists that the UK will leave both the Single Market and the Customs Union.
- Jeremy Corbyn's position that jobs and the economy must come first and that we must remain in a customs union with Europe.
- The Leader of the Ealing Conservatives said of Brexit "I'm voting leave. I think it's really important we take back our sovereignty."
- The Tories' 2017 general election candidate in Ealing Central & Acton said: "While leaving the EU would inevitably bring economic risks... in my view that is a price worth paying."
- Cleveland's Tory Councillor said: "Let's be havin' you, let's be out."
- Ealing Labour Party campaigned to keep the UK in the European Union.
- Labour-run Hammersmith & Fulham's call for voters to have a say on any eventual Brexit deal.

We believe:

- All those affected by Brexit should have their say on Brexit.
- The Tory government should immediately guarantee the rights of all EU citizens living in Ealing, London and the UK.
- European citizens and their families should not be used as bargaining chips in the Brexit negotiations.
- European citizens in the UK should have all of their current rights retained and protected, even in the event of no Brexit deal being agreed, to give them peace of mind that they are welcome in Ealing and across the country, no matter what.

We resolve:

- To remind registered Europeans that they have a vote on 3rd May 2018 and that they should head to the polls to have their say on the Tories' disastrous approach to Brexit.
- To look to establish a multi-lingual advice portal on Ealing Council's website for EU citizens resident in the Borough, so that we can reassure them of where they stand, signpost their options moving forward and answer those frequently asked questions about the Brexit negotiations.
- To call on the Tory government to let parliament and the British people have the final say on any Brexit deal.