

## **Lib Dems campaigning for Brexit People's Vote**

***This is a letter sent by Josephine Hanney to the Slough Express that was published in a slightly abbreviated way on Aug 24.***

There was very encouraging news in article in *The Express* on August 17 saying that Slough was one of the constituencies that data suggest has changed its mind about Brexit and would now vote to remain in the EU.

Less encouraging, but entirely predictable, was the sad spectacle of local leaders of the Tory and Labour parties following their national leaders and squabbling about exactly which version of Brexit they wished to see. In reality, any version of Brexit will be bad for most British people. Of course, some versions of Brexit would be even more damaging than others.

The British Medical Association, which represents British doctors, recently stated, any version of Brexit will be bad for the health of the nation. We are already seeing many dedicated health and social care workers here in Slough, as elsewhere in the country, leaving their posts and moving back to the EU because of fears about Brexit. At the same time, recruitment of new staff from the EU has fallen. These factors are already contributing to a staffing crisis in parts of the NHS.

The leaders of the Labour Party have totally let down the British people by, thus far, siding with the Tories and refusing to support the growing calls for the people to have the final say on any version of Brexit. The leaders of both parties seem to think the final decision should be left to a tiny number of politicians.

The Lib Dems have consistently said that just as the decision to start the Brexit process was made by the people, so all the people should have a vote on whether to accept the final version of Brexit, or reject it and stay in the EU. This includes those who are now old enough to vote, but last time were denied a vote on their future because of their age. The news about the apparent change of mind in Slough, and many other constituencies, further strengthens the case for a People's Vote on the Deal.

On April 27 *The Express* published a letter from me pointing out that the local elections provided a chance for residents to vote Lib Dem in some wards in Slough, and not only vote for good local candidates, but also register support for a vote on the Brexit deal.

In the local elections in May the Lib Dems stormed past the Tories into second place in Cippenham Meadows. This was an admittedly small start, but the Slough Lib Dems are stepping up our support for the campaign for a People's Vote, and gathering information about the damage Brexit is likely to do to the economy and residents of Slough. For more information about the campaign, or to give us your views about the dangers of Brexit, please see the Slough Lib Dems website or contact us at:

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