



MATT RODDA MP
Member of Parliament for Reading East



Brexit update

30th January 2019

Dear constituent,

Last night's votes in Parliament showed the continuing difficulty of getting agreement on a way forward.

Opposing no deal

Parliament voted by 318 to 310 to reject the United Kingdom leaving the EU with no deal.

I voted against no deal as I believe leaving with no deal would be very damaging to our country, to the economy and to our local community.

The Government wins the vote to give the Prime Minister another chance to renegotiate her deal

But, Parliament also voted to allow The Government to go back to the EU to try to secure further changes to the Prime Minister's deal.

This was even though MPs voted overwhelmingly to reject the Government's deal two weeks before.

I voted against this approach last night, as I do not believe the Prime Minister's deal is in the national interest and would harm our local economy and damage our community.

The next few days

It now seems as though the Prime Minister will try to gain further concessions even though the EU has said it will not make any significant changes to the deal.

I think it is disappointing that the Government is still trying to make an impossible deal with the EU to assuage the demands of Government backbenchers. The danger is that an attempt to create temporary unity among Government MPs that the Prime Minister will raise expectations she can not fulfil.

Finding an alternative approach

I signed a number of the amendments which were voted on last night (Tuesday), including the one tabled by Jeremy Corbyn calling for options to be on the table including a public vote.

I also signed the amendment by Yvette Cooper and Nick Boles, which called for a delay to Brexit if there was no deal reached by late February.

I do think that the Government needs to rethink its approach to Brexit and I hope Ministers will consider the points made in these amendments.

Yours sincerely,

Matt Rodda, MP for Reading East.