



Stephen Lloyd MP
Member of Parliament for Eastbourne and Willingdon
Houses of Parliament, London, SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Alistair Carmichael MP
Chief Whip
Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Party
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

6th

December 2018

Dear Alistair,

It is with regret that I am writing to you to tender my resignation of the party whip in Parliament. I have come to this conclusion because the pledge I made to my town cannot be honestly reconciled with the position of the Party over the Prime Minister's EU Withdrawal Bill, and the People's Vote.

Though I fought as a Remainer during the referendum, and still believe we would be better off in the EU, I also made a clear promise to my constituency, Eastbourne & Willingdon, at the time that I would accept the result, support the deal the PM brought back from the EU and not back calls for a second referendum.

And as we have discussed, I will be keeping my word to my town.

However, I appreciate me voting this way and not supporting a People's Vote, are counter to the Liberal Democrats' formal position.

Consequently, I have decided the only honourable thing for me to do is to resign the party whip in Parliament. Rest assured though, that I will continue to fight hard for liberal values and press my constituents' cases actively in Westminster, as I have always done.

I am genuinely saddened to take this action as have nothing but respect and affection for you, my parliamentary colleagues and for our Party.

With best wishes,

Stephen Lloyd MP
Eastbourne & Willingdon



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

6 December 2018

Mr Stephen Lloyd Esq MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Stephen,

Thank you for your letter indicating your wish to resign the Liberal Democrat whip in the House of Commons.

The decisions that the House shall be called upon to make in the next seven days are of an importance that is not likely to be matched in our time in parliament. The party has adopted a strong position and Vince has led the campaign for an exit from Brexit and for a people's vote. You are right that this is a touchstone issue for the party and it is impossible to reconcile your position with that of the party. I understand the reasons why you feel it necessary to take this step and know the strength of your conviction that this is a necessary thing for you to do. With equal regret, therefore, I accept your resignation.

I am sure that all my colleagues in the parliamentary party will hear this news with sadness. We have all enjoyed having you as a colleague and we shall miss your contribution to our work in parliament. I hope that the day may come when you feel able to apply again to take the Liberal Democrat whip.

Yours truly,

Alistair