

Brexit

Submission on behalf of Totnes and Newton Abbot CLPs. This was developed by members at a policy forum event (22/06/2019) based on knowledge of our constituencies, reflection on the recent European election campaign, and our reading of the NPF briefing

There was considerable concern about the lack of clarity and the difficulties of communicating the current policy. No local specifics but we had all experienced difficulty at the local and (especially) European elections in explaining and promoting the current policy with voters.

There were as many views as people round the table. Some remainers, some leavers. We were divided between Remain and Reform, and wanting to see a return to the simpler trading block identity that the EU began as.

In brief, the points we agreed were as follows:-

1. The need to keep the party's 6 tests.
2. A confirmatory vote on any deal.
3. A ballot of members to get an accurate picture of our views
4. The 2016 referendum was badly set up with a poor framework. We were also concerned about significant corruption during the process. We felt that these issues need to be investigated and any second referendum should avoid and not repeat the same mistakes.
5. We agreed it was important for the party to address the issues that caused the protest element of the pro Brexit vote.
6. We did not agree on what the party's policy should be in the event of a general election, but no deal was unacceptable to all of us.