

ITEM 6

13th December 2018



16 November 2018

Councillor Susan Aitken
Leader of Glasgow City Council
City Chambers
Glasgow
G2 1DU

BREXIT - PEOPLE'S VOTE

- Thank you for your letter detailing Glasgow City Council's decision to back the campaign for a second referendum on any Brexit deal arrived at by the UK Government ahead of March 2019.

I understand the mounting concerns within Glasgow City Council regarding the ongoing Brexit negotiations, and clearly these are now further confused by developments over the last couple of days. You may know that Aberdeenshire, and Highland I believe, have held similar votes with similar conclusions

During the referendum, COSLA's position was strong for remaining a member of the EU and in principle we remain opposed to leaving the EU. We understand the uncertainty Brexit is causing local councils and are aware of the significant implications which councils could face as a result. As such, we began contingency planning with and on behalf of our membership immediately after the decision to leave the EU was made and are now increasing that working with councils as and when certainties emerge.

Ultimately, our stance on the People's Vote will be driven by what COSLA members want. As such, we will be bringing a report to Leaders at the end of the month updating on our work around Brexit and preparedness. As part of that report, the move by some councils to support a People's Vote will be raised. I expect that this will provide an opportunity for Leaders to discuss and decide whether COSLA should take a formal position on this issue.

Yours Sincerely,

Alison Evison
President, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities.

WHEN CALLING PLEASE ASK FOR: Hannah Ross 0131 474 9341 hannah.ross@cosla.gov.uk

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