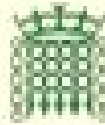


SAM GYIMAH MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Graham Bailey
Temuka
Kings Cross Lane
South Norfield
Surrey RH11 5NS

29th March 2011

Dear Mr Bailey,

Thank you for contacting me about a referendum on the UK's membership of the EU.

The Prime Minister, David Cameron has recently stated that he does not believe an 'in out' referendum on the UK's membership of the EU would benefit the UK as a whole.

There are many things about the EU the Government would like to change; however, membership of the EU benefits the UK in many ways. It gives UK business full access to the world's most important trading zone of 500 million consumers, without the barriers of customs or tariffs. 10 per cent of UK jobs rely on exports to EU member states and UK households are estimated to benefit from EU trade by as much as £3,300 per year. There are also benefits for UK individuals, such as the right to study and work within the EU.

Under the present terms of membership, Britain plays a strong and active role in influencing and shaping developments within the EU, furthering goals essential to the national interest. The European Economic Area (EEA) and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) members, in contrast, have to contribute to the EU budget without being able to negotiate the detail and content of EU legislation, and without receiving benefits such as the exemption from customs requirements and costs.

The UK's priorities for the European Union in 2011 are to ensure that first and foremost it can seek to deliver economic growth, through action to increase trade, competitiveness and jobs; and secondly, that it demonstrates effective control over its own spending. The Prime Minister has been active in arguing for a lower EU Budget and Conservative MEPs voted against the proposed rises in the EU Budget.

I agree with you that it is important that the UK is a robust critic of any new powers for the EU and that is why the Government has placed a Bill before Parliament which automatically gives people a referendum on any further power moving between Westminster and Brussels.

...ONCE...

As a result of the reasons I have set out in this letter, I do not support an in/out referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union

Thank you for taking the time to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Sam Gyimah MP

**So there we are
NO REFERENDUM!**

Sam's Snapshot

To keep up to date with my work in Parliament and East Surrey, sign up for email updates at www.samgyimah.com