



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

September 2019.

Dear Constituent,

A Response to the Scottish Independence Campaign

Thank you for contacting me about the Scottish Government's proposal for a second referendum on Scottish independence.

In 2014 people in Scotland voted decisively to remain part of our United Kingdom in a referendum that the Scottish Government themselves said would be a 'once in a generation' vote.

As we negotiate a new relationship with the European Union, the Prime Minister is fighting for every person, every family and every business across the whole of the United Kingdom. That is the Government's focus and it should be the focus of us all.

I believe firmly that at this point all our energies should be focused on our negotiations with the European Union. Talking about an independence referendum will make it more difficult for the United Kingdom to be able to get the right deal for Scotland, and the right deal for the UK.

More than that, I believe it would be unfair to the people of Scotland to be asked to make a crucial decision without the necessary information, and without knowing what the future partnership will be or what the alternative for an independent Scotland would look like. For these reasons now is not the time.

Constitutional matters, such as the ability to legislate to hold another independence referendum, remain reserved to the UK Parliament.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alister Jack'.

The Rt. Hon. Alister Jack MP
Dumfries and Galloway constituency.