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Well the end has come to a thoroughly poor campaign and with a result that is far from decisive as the political animals of the “Exit” persuasion would like us to believe. Essentially this has been a divisive and highly unsatisfactory experience. Unhappily many other socio-economic issues have played a role in leading us to this situation. One BBC interview with a man from a particularly deprived area of England asked the interviewee how he would vote. “Out” was the reply. The interviewer went on to remark that he supposed that immigration and the resulting loss of job opportunities in the interviewee’s home town was an important factor? “No” was the response, “I am voting out to support everyone in London who is out of work owing to the immigrants”.

This has therefore been an unsatisfactory experience which has merely served to divide the country further. Those who voted “Out” voted on the basis of a tissue of half-truths – and this is a generous take on the conduct of the campaign. The common response to such a remark is to say “but all politicians lie”. While this may, in the strictest sense, be a truth; voting one way or another in a national election where the consequences of a miscast vote can be unpicked 5 years later, is a transitory inconvenience; in such a once-and-for-all issue a first past the post system, particularly one that gained ground on significant un-truths, is disastrous. The Referendum ought to have called for certain minima: percentage turn-out on the one hand and a percentage difference on the other. Much talk is made of the 17m who voted out and practically none for the 16m who voted in.

Mrs May is a thoroughly admirable and capable person; surely she can see the cancer that has now been planted in the national psyche? At least one MP has put their views in the public domain:

It is my strong belief that, having voted narrowly for the principle of leaving the EU on the basis of a Leave campaign which was dishonest, the British people should have the opportunity to vote in a second referendum on the detail of a Brexit deal – knowing, in detail, what the UK’s economic relationship with the EU would be, what the approach to immigration would be and what the impacts on our ability to travel to EU countries will be etc. This second referendum should be a binary choice on accepting a specific detailed proposal on leaving the EU, or remaining in the EU.

It has become clear that there are many people in the UK who voted Leave because they were misleadingly promised £350million extra per week for the NHS by the Leave campaign and a more restrictive approach to immigration. Prominent Leave campaigners have, since the referendum, retracted the clear and unequivocal statements that were made on these issues during the campaign. It is therefore only right that electors are given the opportunity to have a final say on the detail of Brexit proposals, and the opportunity to take a step back from them given the significant implications of leaving the EU.

If you are seriously considering the sale of your business it is important that you wait unless Father Time is knocking more urgently at your door. All we do is help sell businesses, we do not offer ancillary services (nor do we request advance fees). Our view is that waiting a while to see how national politics develop is a sensible tactic and when you do speak to a broker make sure it is an experienced and knowledgeable broker; companies are not sold on a push-button basis, talk to Chesham because you only sell your business once!