

EU REFERENDUM – PAPER 2

What are voters being asked?

The Conservative manifesto for the 2015 General Election pledged to hold an in-out referendum on the UK's membership of the EU by the end of 2017.

The referendum will ask the following question:

"Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union?"

The answers offered to voters will be

Remain a member of the European Union

Leave the European Union

Referendum date

Following the European summit held in February 2016, where the Prime Minister secured a renegotiated settlement on some of the terms of the UK's membership of the EU, the day of the referendum was confirmed as June 23rd 2016.

Who will be eligible to vote?

- Citizens of the UK and of Commonwealth countries who are resident in the UK, as well as UK nationals who have lived overseas for less than 15 years. Unlike in a general election, Members of the House of Lords will also be able to vote.
- Citizens of EU countries are not eligible, even if they live in the UK, with the exception of the Republic of Ireland, Malta and Cyprus.
- The House of Lords' proposal to allow 16- and 17-year-olds who fell within these categories to vote was rejected by the House of Commons. The minimum voting age for the EU Referendum will be 18.

What do the UK parties think?



David Cameron is a strong supporter of Britain staying in the EU, but Conservative MPs will be allowed to campaign to leave or stay in the EU.



Labour's official position is to remain in the EU. However, a faction from the Labour party has split and chosen to create the 'Labour Leave' organisation.



The Liberal Democrats are in favour of remaining in the EU.



The SNP are in favour of remaining in the EU.