

Ditch Brexit, fix Britain

Proportional Voting for the European Parliament on 23 May 2019

England, Scotland and Wales: Illustrative Example

Step 1

Imagine 5 parties contesting 5 seats in a region. If the Brexit party has the most votes, the first MEP seat goes to the candidate at the top of the Brexit party list (see table).

Step 2

The number of votes for the Brexit party is divided by 2 (its number of seats + 1). The Lib Dem party now has the most votes, so the second seat goes to the top Lib Dem candidate.

Step 3

The number of Lib Dem votes is divided by 2 (= 1 + 1), so the third seat goes to the Brexit party, which now has 50 votes, the highest number. The seat goes to the second person on the party list.

Step 4

The original number of votes for the Brexit party is divided by 3 (= 2 + 1).

Lib Dems and the Greens both have 40 votes and win the fourth and fifth seats.

One seat goes to the second Lib Dem candidate and one to the top name on the Green list.

The table:

Party	Votes step 1	Votes step 2	Votes step 3	Votes step 4	Seats
Brexit	★100	100/2 = 50	★50	100/3 = 33	2
Lib Dem	80	★80	80/2 = 40	★40	2
Green	40	40	40	★40	1
Labour	20	20	20	20	0
Conservative	10	10	10	10	0

UK Seats in the European Parliament

The UK is divided into 12 electoral regions: 9 in England, 1 each for Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. The contesting parties each submit a list of candidates to voters in each region. In all there are 73 UK MEPs.

The SW Region of England (including BCP and Gibraltar) elects 6 MEPs.

Poll Data (Best for Britain, 19 May 2019, sample size 9,260)

National Vote Share

Brexit 34%, Lib Dem 17%, Labour 15%, Conservative 11%, Change UK 9%, Green 4%, other 10%

SW Region Vote Share

Brexit 42%, Lib Dem 20%, Green 12%, Conservative 9%, Labour 8%, Change UK 4%, other 5%

SW Region: Tactical voting to stop Brexit

If 1.5 million people vote (30% turnout), projected results are (in thousands, rounded)

Party	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Seats
Brexit	★630	★315	210	★210	157	★157	4
Lib Dem	300	300	★300	150	150	150	1
Green	180	180	180	180	★180	90	1
Conservative	135	135	135	135	135	135	0

In this case, Lib Dems only need 20k more votes to change the result to Brexit 3, Lib Dem 2, Green 1

★ Tactical advice: Vote Lib Dem ★