Sarah Wollaston Chair, Health and Social Care Committee, Chair, Liaison Committee (Commons), Chair, Liaison Committee

Further to that point of order, Mr Speaker. May I make a helpful suggestion, which is that you send a photocopy of "Erskine May" to members of the Government? On a more serious note, the Government keep insisting that Members of this House should have the opportunity to change their minds. Is it not time that they extended the same courtesy to the British people?

John Bercow Speaker of the House of Commons, Chair, Speaker's Committee on the Electoral Commission, Chair, Speaker's Committee for the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority, Chair, Commons Reference Group on Representation and Inclusion Committee

I note what the hon. Lady has said. The second point is a political one, to which I will not respond. In relation to "Erskine May", it is available free online. In relation to the same question convention, I simply make the point that when I pronounced on the same question convention on 18 March, one of the early responses came from an hon. Member who said: "may I say how delighted I am that you have decided to follow precedent, which is something I am greatly in favour of?"[Official Report, 18 March 2019;Vol. 656, c. 778.]

He went on to make other supporting points. The person who responded in that way was none other than the Leader of the House, Mr Rees-Mogg. The Leader of the House was very much with me at that time on the same question convention. I take the same view seven months later, and it is for him to explain whether he does.

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