



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Cllr Holly Whitbread

Chairman of Epping Forest Conservative Association

23rd May 2024

Dear Holly,

I have had the great honour and pleasure of representing the people of Epping Forest as their Member of Parliament for the last 27 years. I have also had the privilege of serving as Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons for over 10 years, the last 4 of which have been as Chairman of Ways and Means.

It is very difficult to give up a job that you love. I have come to the conclusion, however, that it is now time for me to move aside and give others the opportunities that I have been so fortunate to have.

I had hoped to meet you this weekend to tell you in person that I will not seek re-election at the end of this parliament. Now that the General Election has been called, that moment has come rather sooner than I had expected.

Epping Forest is a marvellous constituency. Its towns and villages are full of character and the ancient Forest itself gives personality to the whole area. As the recent local election results showed, I have every confidence that we will win this great seat on 4th July.

I also have every confidence that our Party will flourish. The British people need our principles and our values – responsibility, compassion and freedom.

I will wholeheartedly continue to support the work of the Association and, whomever my successor might be, I will do all that I can to help in the forthcoming campaign.

With very best wishes,

Yours ever,

Eleanor