

How to run indicative votes on Brexit

	Option 1: Series of amendments to a motion	Option 2: Series of separate motions	Option 3: A shortlisting phase	Option 4: Ballot using the Alternative Vote method	Option 5: Exhaustive votes
How would it work?	MPs table amendments on the different Brexit options against a single motion.	MPs vote on separate motions on the different Brexit options. This approach was taken in 2003 when MPs considered House of Lords reform.	MPs shortlist a range of options to be put to a vote, either by choosing from a wider lists drawn up by the Speaker, or proposing their own list of options. To allow simultaneous voting, this could take place on 'pink slips' in the Lobby.	MPs rank the options in order of preference. If no option has a majority, the least favoured option is eliminated, and MPs' second preference votes reallocated until one option commands majority support.	Through multi-round voting, MPs will vote on each option and the one with the least support in each round will be eliminated. MPs then vote on the remaining options. This continues until there is only one option left standing.
Has the Commons used the process before?	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
Why might it be proposed?	Normal procedure	Precedent – House of Lords indicative votes	Proposed by Oliver Letwin	Proposed by Ken Clarke and Helen Goodman in February based on way select committee chairs are chosen	Proposed by the National Institute of Economic and Social Research
Is there a significant role for the Speaker?	✓	?	?	✗	✗
Would it force MPs to narrow down options?	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Does it allow MPs to show second preferences?	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Does it guarantee a single remaining option?	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Might the outcome be affected by the order MPs vote on options?	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
Does it guarantee any preferred option is negotiable?	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Remaining questions	<p>Would the Prime Minister's deal be considered as just another option, excluded or used in a 'run off' with the option preferred by MPs through the indicative votes process?</p> <p>Would a further referendum be considered an option to be voted on through this process or considered separately at the end?</p> <p>None of these options necessarily guarantee that a majority of MPs will back the option that emerges as most popular from an indicative votes process nor oblige the Government to adopt that as a way forward.</p>				