

¹Appendix 1 : Summary of arguments of the Leave and Remain side of the EU Referendum Debate

Britain Stronger in Europe	Vote Leave
<p>No certainty as to what will the UK's deal with the EU look like post exit: 'The Leave campaigns cannot tell us what 'out' looks like. They have advocated the 'Norway' and 'Switzerland' models, but both would reduce Britain's control over our own economic affairs, making us pay in to the EU budget and accept EU rules with no influence over them. We would pay, but have no say. They have now suggested a new Free Trade Agreement (FTA) of unprecedented terms that is not in the EU's interests, but with no detail on how it could be achieved.'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential loss of trade, jobs and investment: 'The trade, jobs and investment linked to Britain being in Europe are the equivalent of an average £3,000 a year to each household. Studies have shown that three million jobs are linked to Britain's trade with the EU, and that further development of Europe's single market could deliver 800,000 additional jobs in Britain by 2030. And the UK is the largest recipient of inward investment in the EU, which is due to our access to the single market.' • Potential for price rises due to trade tariffs: 'If Britain were to leave Europe with no trade deal, we would move to trading with the EU according to World Trade Organisation rules. One consequence of this would be Britain facing new tariffs on our imports of goods from the EU. Under this arrangement the additional cost of EU goods imports would be £11 billion... The £11bn cost for British businesses and families would be £176 for every person and £426 for every household in Britain.' 	<p>The EU is too slow and bureaucratic: 'it suffers low growth, high unemployment, a dysfunctional euro and culture that is not friendly to technology and entrepreneurs'.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EU is costly: the UK 'sends over £350 million to the European Union each week', money which could be spent on 'scientific research and the NHS'. • EU regulations cost UK businesses: the current annual cost of EU regulation to the UK economy is €33.3bn. • Trade deals: the EU should 'stop blocking non-euro countries from making trade deals outside of Europe'. A UK outside of the EU would have greater control over international trade and could have its own seat on the WTO. 74% of Britain's SMEs think the British Government, not the EU, should control the UK's trade policy'. • The UK's voice in the EU is diminishing: the UK's vote share in the Council of Ministers has decreased from 17% in 1973, to 8% today. The UK has unsuccessfully attempted to block motions before the council 72 times.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaving the EU would lead to a loss of GDP: estimates range include: Open Europe's best case scenario of 1.6% GDP gain or a worst case 2.2% loss; the Centre for Economic Performance, LSE best case 2.2% loss, or worst case 9.5% loss; and Bertelsmann Stiftung best case 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EU is in economic decline: '<i>with a relatively shrinking and ageing population</i>' and when the UK joined in 1973 'the EEC accounted for 37% of World GDP' compared to 20% today.

¹ NI Assembly Research & Information Services Briefing Paper (January 2016); The EU referendum and potential implications for Northern Ireland

0.6% loss and worst case 14% loss.

• **Regulation:** *'The EU is often blamed for burdening business with excessive regulation yet the World Bank finds that the UK is sixth out of 189 countries globally for ease of doing business. What is this red tape that is holding the UK plc back? And if it is such a burden, why is it not preventing German companies from trading so successfully inside and outside the EU, when that country is listed at number 15 in the ease of business index?'*

• **Trade deals:** The EU has over 50 trade deals with third countries and it is negotiating more. Countries such as Switzerland and Iceland, who have negotiated trade deals with China as independent countries have found that these deals *'are one-sided and favour China'*.

• **Free Movement of Workers:** UK businesses recruit skilled labour from EU. The EU may not offer UK a favourable trade deal without securing continued free movement.

• **Alternatives to EU membership have drawbacks:** EFTA/EEA countries, Norway for example, pay into the EU, have to implement EU law but have no influence. Leaving the EU and joining EFTA would reduce trade with EU members by 25% over time. The Swiss option of bilateral trade agreements is *'time consuming and complex'* Switzerland has over 100 bilateral agreements in place, with each having to be negotiated. If Britain were to take this option it would not inherit the EU's bilateral trade agreements but would have to renegotiate trade deals with non-EU countries from scratch. The WTO option would see the UK not signing a trade deal with the EU, rather relying on its WTO membership. This would *'leave the UK isolated in international trade negotiations and subject to the EU's external tariffs'*. A UK-EU free-trade agreement will be reliant on the *'goodwill'* of EU members.

• **The EU is slow moving:** the UK's membership of the EU prevents the country from *'taking full advantage of a surging global economy'*.

• **UK exports to non-EU states are growing:** the UK's three fastest growing export markets are outside the EU.

• **Trade deals:** Leaving the EU would enable the UK to negotiate its own free trade deals. EU trade deals with major economies such as Japan, India and the UAE have been suspended or are *'barely moving'*.

• **World Trade Organisation:** leaving the EU would enable the UK to have its own seat on the WTO increasing its global influence.

• **Bilateral trade:** Australia, South Korea and Japan are thriving economies that conduct trade policy on a bilateral basis, rather than joining free trade zones.

