

# Grant us access now to the Whitehall results

Michael Ellington

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Sir,

Chris Giles (FT, The latest pro-Brexit analysis has got its sums badly wrong) is absolutely spot on in criticising the modelling assumptions, and results, of “Economists for Trade” who came to the conclusion that Brexit “would provide a 2 to 4 per cent boost to national income in the long term”. Chris is able to offer constructive criticism because he, and the rest of us, have full access to the working paper of the “Economists for Trade”. Contrast this with the “Whitehall results”, claiming that any plausible Brexit policy would trigger a loss between 2 and 8 per cent of national income in the long term. Given that the “Whitehall results” remain well-hidden from the public domain, how can we know whether these are more accurate than those produced by the quantitative model of the “Economists for Trade”? Is it not about time the Government granted full access to the “Whitehall results” so that all of us can judge their validity and consequently reach an informed opinion about our country’s long-term income prospects?

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