Dear Editor,

No-one can express an opinion accurately with just a single ‘x’.  Experience in Northern Ireland shows that extremists are less likely to cross the party divides.  Thus single-preference voting often gives extremists more success than is their due.

{The trouble with Trump (and brexit) was that the vote was, in effect, binary.}  If the US election had been preferential - with, say, Clinton, Cruz, Johnson, Sanders, Stein and Trump - the outcome could have been a more accurate reflection of the general will, and Trump would probably now not be the President-elect.

If democracy is to survive, preferential voting is essential, both in elections and in decision-making.

Yours