This election is Ulster’s date with destiny. It is the chance to put things right, to give a mandate to a strong and united Democratic Unionist team and to negotiate a new agreement.

Ask yourself this question, “Is the Union stronger today as a result of the Belfast Agreement?” No it is not. As a result of the policies and actions of the Official Unionists we are closer to a united Ireland than we have ever been.

Only a vote for the DUP can stop the nightmare of David Trimble partnering Gerry Adams in the running of our Province.

The DUP will fight these elections based on our seven principles. Unlike the UUP, when elected we will keep our word and honour our manifesto.

Stop and think how much has happened since 10th April 1998. Has it been the journey we were promised?

The destruction of the RUC, the withdrawal of the Army, the release of terrorist prisoners, the elevation of Sinn Fein/IRA members to government office without evidence of the destruction of weaponry, the creation of ever-expanding all-Ireland institutions, the lawless state of our Province, the ever-growing list of breaches of IRA and loyalist so-called ceasefires, the disregard of the views of peaceful and democratic politicians in favour of the spokesmen of terrorist organisations.

For unionist voters who face the prospect of Sinn Fein/IRA becoming the largest nationalist party in the Assembly the choice is clear - do they want republicans faced by a UUP which has granted everything Sinn Fein IRA have demanded while destroying the foundations of unionism or do they want republicans forced by the DUP which will confront and resist their republican agenda while resolutely defending the Union?

You can stop it. Vote for a party with policies to put things right. On Wednesday 26th November it’s your chance to put things right. It’s time for a new start. It’s time for a fair deal.
THE BELFAST AGREEMENT IS WRECKING NORTHERN IRELAND:

I DON’T WANT AN AMNESTY FOR ON-THE-RUN TERRORISTS

The Secretary of State said the Joint Declaration constituted a ‘shared understanding’ between the pro-Agreement parties. If implemented, terrorists will be free without serving a day in prison.

OUR SEVEN PRINCIPLES:

1. The DUP is a devolutionist party. We believe in democratic, fair and accountable government.
2. We negotiate with the representatives of terrorists but we will talk to democratic parties.
3. Those who are not committed to exclusively peaceful and democratic means should not be able to exercise unaccountable executive power.
4. Terrorist infrastructure and weaponry must be removed before the Stormont Executive can be opened.
5. Any relationship with the Republic of Ireland should be fully accountable in the Assembly.
6. The DUP will work to restore the morale and effectiveness of the police force.
7. We will strive to ensure genuine equality for all, including equality in funding.

THE CHOICE FOR UNIONISTS

Whist the UUP negotiated and supported the Belfast Agreement the DUP opposed it. We have consistently opposed the one-sided concessions the Agreement has delivered to republicans over the last five years. Unless the Belfast Agreement process is halted it will extend and entrench the gains republicans have made.

The Belfast Agreement is wrecking Northern Ireland:

THE CHOICE FOR UNIONISTS

These Assembly elections are crucial to the future of Northern Ireland. Their result will determine whether there will be another four years of the Belfast Agreement or negotiations for a new agreement.

Four more years of the Belfast Agreement is likely to mean a Sinn Fein/IRA Deputy First Minister, a Sinn Fein/IRA Policing and Justice Minister, Sinn Fein/IRA back in government, more all-Ireland rule and a fundamental weakening of the Union.

A new agreement can lead to a stable and lasting form of devolution, fair to all and certain in its terms which can be a constitutional settlement not a process to a united Ireland.

This election represents the last and best chance to reverse the failures and decline of recent years. It represents a choice between a new agreement which can command the support of unionists as well as nationalists or more of the same concessions to republicans, undermining of the unionist position and instability in government.

Only a strong unionist stance can deliver a fair deal. Only the DUP can negotiate that deal. The UUP have tried and failed. The UUP have lied and failed. Unionists cannot afford to give the UUP yet another chance.

On 26th November the choice facing unionists will be between the Belfast Agreement and a new agreement.

The Secretary of State said the Joint Declaration constituted a ‘shared understanding’ between the pro-Agreement parties. If implemented, terrorists will be free without serving a day in prison.
There is no doubt that the majority of the people of Northern Ireland, and certainly the vast majority of unionists, consider that while Adams, McGuinness and the other Sinn Fein/IRA spokesmen are claiming the IRA ceasefire to be intact the IRA is in fact building up its military capacity.

‘The Colombia Three’ have been on trial for their terror training activity. These are major charges.

The IRA continues to be the most sophisticated and ruthless terror organisation in Europe and the western world. It possesses a massive weapons arsenal, all of which remains firmly within its control and it has international criminal links.

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It has previously ordered weaponry from Florida in addition to training terrorist groups using updated intelligence files.

Smuggling weapons from Florida for the purposes of upgrading its weapons stockpile.

Marketing over a dozen people in Northern Ireland since the signing of the Belfast Agreement in April 1998.

Updating its weapons and bomb techniques in Colombia in addition to exchanging terrorist tips with its colleagues in the FARC movement.

Identified as being the major line of inquiry into the break-in at Special Branch Headquarters, Castlereagh.

Consistent in its role as judge and jury in the community in the form of beatings, shootings, and other forms of intimidation.

Obliterating and organising violence in East and North Belfast and elsewhere, culminating in the shooting of the Protestants in the East of the city.

Sinn Fein/IRA has fought a thirty year war in Northern Ireland to advance its ambitions for a United Ireland, through all the years of bombing it was unable to achieve its goals, but since 1998 and the first so-called ceasefire it has entrapped major concessions.

This is down to weak leadership by the Ulster Unionist Party. Let us remember the organisation that is Sinn Fein/IRA.

The Sinn Fein/IRA agenda remains the achievement of a United Ireland by whatever means necessary. Its so-called ceasefire is a mere illusionary tactic, used to advance its long-term aims and objectives. The long and varied list of terrorist activity over the last five years and beyond demonstrates that the IRA has not gone away but is continuing to arm, and perpetuate terrorism even when in government.

Sinn Fein/IRA still engages in a continuous cycle of violence. It has never abandoned the terrifying training and demoralizing business and has completely disregarded all calls for its disbandment. It is responsible for murders, shootings and assaults and numerous bombing attempts.

Four more years of the Belfast Agreement will mean the devolution of Policing and Justice. Under the present arrangements Sinn Fein/IRA will be able to appoint the man who bombed the Old Bailey to such a post.

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THE UUP RECORD OF FAILURE:

In 1998 after negotiations with republicans the Ulster Unionist Party supported every aspect of the Belfast Agreement:

1998
- The Belfast Agreement:
  - Ended the RUC
  - Advanced terrorist processes
  - Established Sinn Fein/IRA into government
  - Gave Dublin unchallengeable executive power over affairs in Northern Ireland
  - On every major issue in the last five years the UUP has been proved right and the DUP has been vindicated.
  - Elevated Sinn Fein/IRA into government
  - Released terrorist prisoners
  - Destroyed the RUC

The Belfast Agreement was able to survive.

UUP Deception

Five years ago the UUP deceived the Unionist electorate:
- In 1998 the UUP claimed it had saved the RUC
- In 1999 the UUP seriously damaged the implementation of the Agreement
- In 1998 the UUP claimed all retired police could not operate if the Assembly was suspended
- Today, twelve months after suspension, they still function.
- In 1998 the UUP claimed the Assembly would be able to hold District Police Authority meetings
- In 1998 the UUP deceptively took away executive control from the devolution of policing and criminal justice powers
- Despite campaigning for it for seven years
- In May 2001 before the General Election David Trimble said he would resign as First Minister unless the IRA kept its promise to put arms beyond use in a way to ensure maximum public confidence yet only months later with no evidence of any movement by the IRA he resigned in government.

UUP Hypocrisy

The Ulster Unionist Party has a record of u-turns:
- In June 1999 it fought an election on the party of the peace - no government
- In December 1999 the Ulster Unionist Party placed Sinn Fein/IRA into government without any decommissioning
- In December 2001 the UUP publicly opposed the provision of offices for Sinn Fein/IRA at Stormont
- On the floor of the House of Commons the Secretary of State produced a letter from David Trimble stating the UUP could support it.
- In December 2002 David Trimble stated he was opposed to the devolution of policing and criminal justice powers despite campaigning for it for seven years.
- In May 2003 before the General Election David Trimble said he would resign as First Minister unless the IRA kept its promise to put arms beyond use in a way to ensure maximum public confidence yet only months later with no evidence of any movement by the IRA he resigned in government.

UUP Activity

As concessions flowed, the IRA's activities continued. Since the signing of the Agreement:
- Over 250 punishment beatings
- Over 160 shootings
- Over a dozen murders
- Operating a spy-ring at the heart of government.
- Training FARC terrorists in Colombia
- Stealing documents from Special Branch at Castlereagh
- Over 250 punishment beatings
- Over 160 shootings
- Over a dozen murders

One thing is clear - you can't trust the Ulster Unionists: Before every election the Ulster Unionist Party talks tough, After every election the UUP caves-in, You can't afford to give them another chance...

QUESTIONS:

Are you running on the same manifesto as David Trimble and other pro-Agreement Ulster Unionists?
Who do you advise voters to give a higher preference to:
- pro-Agreement UUP colleagues, or
- anti-Agreement DUP candidates?
Are you calling for a renegotiation of the Agreement or simply its full implementation?
Will you take the Ulster Unionists whip at Stormont?
Can you give a categorical assurance that you will never back David Trimble for First Minister?

UUP UNITY EXPOSED:

“... It is a pretend unity, a unity born of ballot box fear and nurtured by electoral necessity. It’s a hollow sham, a despicable make-believe unity whose only purpose is to fool the electorate. But they won’t be fooled.

If the UUP enters the election with a cobbled together marriage of convenience then the party will be destroyed. Is the electorate to be asked to vote YES and NO, and I hope nobody at UUP HQ believes that the election can be fought as though the last five years hadn’t happened?…”

ALEX KANE : Trimble advisor on Ulster Unionist election strategy

To end the Belfast Agreement and bring about negotiations for a new agreement it is essential that the DUP wins at least half of the unionist seats in the next Assembly election. This will prevent the election of a pro-Agreement DUP candidate. If pro-Agreement candidates are returned to the Assembly there will never be a solution to the conflict...
“WE’RE NOT TALKING ABOUT CHANGING THE AGREEMENT”

MICHAEL MCGIMPSEY, UUP

“Inside Politics” – BBC Radio Ulster - 1st March 2003
NORTHERN IRELAND’S REAL NIGHTMARE:

If the Ulster Unionist Party leader David Trimble controls more than fifty percent of the unionist seats in the Assembly then the Belfast Agreement will survive. This is a terrifying prospect for unionism in Northern Ireland. Just as some of the concessions made five years ago cannot now be recovered, another four years of the Belfast Agreement may leave unionism fatally weakened.

UNCONTROLLABLE SINN FEIN/IRA MINISTERS

In the Belfast Agreement the Ulster Unionist Party not only created a form of devolution which allowed Sinn Fein/IRA to the heart of government but they also created a system in which the Assembly was unable to control Sinn Fein/IRA Ministers.

Last time around Sinn Fein/IRA was entitled to two departments, next time under the existing arrangements it is likely to be more.

On a number of occasions Sinn Fein/IRA Ministers flouted the will of the Assembly. The Ulster Unionists claimed that the Belfast Agreement was set up all-Ireland institutions with executive powers which are unanswerable to the Assembly.

Despite what was promised by the Ulster Unionists the DUP has proved:
- Do you want Sinn Fein/IRA representing Northern Ireland across the world?
- Do you want Sinn Fein/IRA appointing High Court judges?
- Do you want Sinn Fein/IRA to control public appointments in Northern Ireland?
- Do you want Sinn Fein/IRA to run policing in Northern Ireland?
- Do you want Sinn Fein/IRA to control Criminal justice in Northern Ireland?

With the Ulster Unionist Party breaking promises all of the DUP has done. The DUP supports a new form of government where terrorist-related parties have no such control.

MORE ALL-IRELAND RULE

SINN FEIN/IRA PERMANENTLY IN GOVERNMENT

Regardless of the behaviour of republicans there are no adequate provisions for the removal of Sinn Fein/IRA from the executive in the current Assembly structure. As we predicted, the exclusion mechanism negotiated by Ulster Unionists proved to be totally unworkable in practice because of the need for Sinn Fein/IRA support.

The Hillsborough “sanctions” are as ineffective as those negotiated by the DUP in 1998.

Indeed after campaigning in the referendum the Ulster Unionists would have cowered even Sinn Fein/IRA’s position in government, the DUP had to commit in the campaign to taking action in 2002.

If the Belfast Agreement is allowed to stay in place then Sinn Fein/IRA has no place in government permanently inserted.

Only a vote for the DUP can stop this happening.
A vote for the Ulster Unionists will make this nightmare a reality.

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JOINT DECLARATION

THE THREAT TO ULSTER

The Joint Declaration was another step in the process started by the Belfast Agreement. It yet again represents the absolute failure and hypocrisy of the Ulster Unionist Party.

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WHO NEGOTIATES FOR UNIONISM?

This election is about who negotiates for unionism - who can fight for unionism within the negotiations following this election?

The DUP has tried to negotiate on behalf of unionism but has shown itself to be both unskilful and has failed. Only the DUP can take on Sinn Fein/IRA and halt the concessions to republicans.

No deal in Northern Ireland will be stable until it is supported by the DUP. Our seven principles are the foundation of the DUP stance for a new agreement.

We will judge proposals from whatever quarter on the basis of seven tests we have devised. These tests are not unionist demands but are reflective of reality and are demands of democracy.

We shall work for any new agreement which will satisfy these seven tests and maintain Northern Ireland’s position within the United Kingdom.
Martin McGuinness wants to deal with pushover unionists that he can mould and fashion.
On the BBC’s “Inside Politics” programme on Saturday 4 October 2003 he said:

“I DON'T WANT TO SEE THE DEMOCRATIC UNIONIST PARTY... MOVING INTO THE ASCENDANCY. I WANT TO SEE THE WORK OF THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT CONTINUE. WE'RE NOT GOING TO GET THAT, WITH A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME, WITH PEOPLE LIKE PETER ROBINSON, NIGEL DODDS AND IAN PAISLEY. I HOPE IN THE COURSE OF THE ELECTION THE UUP WILL MOVE FORWARD...”

Campaigning for a UUP election victory he confirmed that IRA/Sinn Fein would be open to assisting the UUP to beat the DUP!

DON’T LET THE IRA HAVE ITS WAY – VOTE DUP
The DUP’s Vision for Devolution:
The institutions created under the Belfast Agreement have given devolution a bad name in Northern Ireland. It was costly, inefficient, ineffective, unaccountable and unstable. It was focussed on delivering for the politicians who created the institutions rather than the public. With few exceptions it did not make a tangible difference to the people of Northern Ireland.

It is critical that any new arrangements command the support of unionists as well as nationalists. Only through accepting political realities can a settlement be achieved. The process should not rely on a high degree of trust between the parties, but on what is achievable.

The DUP believes in a form of devolution which can actually work and deliver for the people of Northern Ireland. We are seeking a mandate for a new agreement.

To Govern is to Lead:
Over the past five years we campaigned against the Belfast Agreement and its form of devolved institutions in Northern Ireland and we honoured our commitments to the electorate and took the ministerial responsibility which our votes secured.

In government we fulfilled our long standing party commitments. For example delivering free fares on public transport for those over 65.

We support devolution in Ireland and believe that the reformed institutions in Northern Ireland are accountable to the people of Northern Ireland. We are seeking a mandate for a new agreement.

The DUP is committed to devolution. We believe that local people are best placed to make the decisions which affect their lives. Devolutions notSIelected, as it must be looked at, a means to an end. Devolved government is certainly not Direct Rule but not devolution at any price.

Our vision for devolution is of an Assembly which is stable, effective, efficient and accountable to the people of Northern Ireland. A devolved administration should deal with the matters which are most appropriate to a region and leave other matters to the national Parliament.

The DUP is totally opposed to the devolution of Policing and Justice to the institutions created under the Belfast Agreement. However, if accountable institutions could be created to Direct Rule but not devolution at any price.

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Department for Social Development:

Under the DUP control of Nigel Dodds and Maurice Morrow, during devolution DSD projects have transformed the lives of many ordinary people through their innovative and imaginative programmes. They have ensured people in Northern Ireland get no less benefits than those in Great Britain and have supported urban regeneration right across the Province.

Great progress has been made in the Department for Social Development over the last four years but there is still much work to be done. It is essential to develop community capacity infrastructure especially in the Protestant community where traditionally it has been weak. We must strive to ensure that Northern Ireland is not a cold place for Protestants. We support responsibility for Social Security remaining at Westminster to ensure that the UK has a unified tax and benefits system.

Department for Regional Development:

Thirty years of under-funding left Northern Ireland’s physical infrastructure in need of a strategic overhaul and significant investment. During their period in office the DUP Ministers set about reversing this in the areas of roads, water, ports and harbours and public transport. Widely respected across the political spectrum, the DUP Ministers were able to achieve support throughout the community. Peter Robinson and Gregory Campbell transformed physical infrastructure and placed it on the road to recovery.

Even the fiercest critics of the DUP accept that the DUP Ministers were the best in office. All four DUP Ministers excelled in running their departments and won acclaim for being effective. Slammed as ‘rogue Ministers’ by Trimble and Mallon, the DUP proved that its Ministers could do their jobs without sitting around the Executive table with Sinn Fein/IRA.
THE DUP’S Vision for Devolution >>>

Delivering a Better Education System for All Children:

Improving healthcare is one of the greatest challenges we face. The Belfast Agreement did not improve health provision. Ulster Unionists’ desire to partner Sinn Fein in government saw Bairbre de Brún assume control of health and waiting lists, understaffing and bed shortages worsened. Instead of action we witnessed only reviews and consultation.

Decisions on locating specialist services must be carefully addressed. We appreciate the importance of final decisions on the location of particular specialist services to ensure an effective service to the people of Northern Ireland. We believe funding must exceed the rest of the United Kingdom.

Over the years health provision in Northern Ireland has fallen well behind the people of Northern Ireland and recognise the need for restructuring our healthcare system with equality of opportunity and support.

A Level of Healthcare the Taxpayer Deserves:

We need targeted strategies with an end to knee-jerk spending. Budget cuts are important to ensure transparency. It is important to see how and when funding is spent. Following the renegotiation of the Agreement in 2007 the DUP believes fully accountable to any Assembly. Staff shortages mean that patients suffer and a further backlog is placed on existing staff. A shortage of nurses means local hospitals have to recruit in Asia. We need more surgeons and extra occupational, speech and physiotherapists to increase capacity. Democratic Unionists want to see more doctors and other healthcare professionals trained in our universities in Northern Ireland and coordination given to developing incentives to keep them there in the NHS.

Democratic Unionists are committed to the highest level of healthcare for the people of Northern Ireland and remove the need for restructuring our hospital services. A strong Health Service is about delivering the benefits of a co-ordinated healthcare network to the user.

The DUP recommends integrating related services like general practitioner, pharmacies, dentists and opticians with multi-disciplinary primary care centres, improving medical care for our ageing population is one of the greatest challenges. Government must provide the best possible standard of care for those who develop dementia and other conditions of older age. We need a connective transport network for the elderly. Northern Ireland needs more nursing homes and residential care places.

The Health Service crisis is far beyond acute services. Community care provision requires massive improvement especially in the field of mental health and end-of-life care and the needs of disabled people. They are sometimes overlooked and undervalued. We will continue to promote the needs of the disabled.

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A shortage of nurses means local hospitals have to recruit in Asia. We need more surgeons and extra occupational, speech and physiotherapists to increase capacity. Democratic Unionists want to see more doctors and other healthcare professionals trained in our universities in Northern Ireland and coordination given to developing incentives to keep them there in the NHS.
PROTECTING THE TAXPAYER - CONTROLLING THE COST OF GOVERNMENT

The Democratic Unionist Party believes in accountable, efficient, effective and affordable government. At Local Government level the DUP has proved that the best quality services can be delivered at a reasonable cost to the taxpayer. Any administration in Northern Ireland must learn to spend the money it receives more effectively rather than expect the population to fund political bureaucracy.

REGIONAL GOVERNMENT

At regional level the pro-Agreement parties have devised a form of government with too many layers of administration and too many checks to effective governance. As a result we have an ever growing bureaucracy devouring resources which are needed for front-line services and investment. These situations must change.

In the last four years the staffing levels at the Office of First Minister and Deputy First Minister have expanded to a level where it is larger than both Prime Ministers’ offices in London and Dublin combined. It is clear that the pro-Agreement parties are unpalatable to the growth of bureaucracy. The pro-agreement parties promised that a review of Public Administration would result in cost savings. After five years this process has hardly got off the ground. In Northern Ireland at a regional level we have:

- 11 government departments: when only 6 were needed under Direct Rule.
- 108 Assembly Members: three times the number per head in Scotland and Wales.
- A Civic Forum: an expensive talking shop which delivers nothing.

The abolition of the Civic Forum and reductions in the number of Assembly Members and government departments would make substantial savings without any damage being done to the administration in Northern Ireland.

Nothing has been done to limit or control QUANGOS in Northern Ireland.

Remember it is your money that is being spent. When politicians want to raise your rates remember what your money is being wasted on.

EQUALITY

In Northern Ireland we have the most extensive consultation and equality proofing processes in the world. As a result resources are wasted and crucial time and money is lost.

Without protecting the goal of equality, a much more streamlined process must be devised which will allow government to assist people rather than getting bogged down in bureaucracy.

REINVESTMENT AND REFORM INITIATIVE - RRI

The ‘Reinvestment and Reform Initiative’ has paved the way for massive Rate increases within the term of the last Assembly. Historically, for a variety of reasons, Northern Ireland has paid Rates at a level lower than the rest of the UK. The Treasury saw this as an opportunity to seek to bribe Northern Ireland with its own money.

When combined with the other changes in the Rating system, some people could be paying twice as much in Rates at the end of the next Assembly term as at the start.

The DUP has consistently voted against the Rate increases endorsed by other parties. The DUP will campaign for the best possible deal for the Ratepayer and will oppose unjustified Rate increases.

WATER CHARGES

Despite objections from the DUP the link was broken between the Regional Rate and the funding of water services. As a result the Treasury claims that people in Northern Ireland must pay for their water and can effectively force Water Charges on Northern Ireland.

Northern Ireland people pay for their water, albeit not in the form of a separate charge. The key issue is not whether water charges are introduced but whether there is then an equal decrease in the level of the Regional Rate.

Waters of the water service can make a significant contribution to reducing costs.

The DUP will campaign to ensure that any introduction of a water charge does not place an additional burden on the ratepayer.

REFORM OF THE WATER SERVICE

The DUP can make a significant reform of the water service with no cost to the Ratepayer.

• Oppose significant local tax rises.
• Reduce the number of Assembly Members from 108 to 72.
• Reduce the number of Government Departments by around half. Do nothing with the Civic Forum.
• Cut back on all Ireland Implementation Bodies and cut back on North South Ministerial Council.
• Reduce the equality and human rights agenda.
• Cut the size of the Office of First Minister and Deputy First Minister.

PROPOSALS:

- Action to ensure that older people feel safe in their homes.
- The delivery of a substantial increase in the size of the state pension.
- The delivery of free TV licences to all aged over 65.

ROAD SAFETY

7291 people died on Northern Ireland’s roads from 1969-2001. Indeed it has consistently caused more fatalities than the Troubles. These figures represent a disgrace for Northern Ireland and it is critical that they are very substantially reduced.

The problem is particularly acute for men under 35.

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Only a concerted effort across government can make this a reality. Fatalities have reduced in the last thirty years but road fatalities still represent a huge cause of death and suffering in Northern Ireland. Education, engineering and enforcement initiatives must be taken to help solve the problem. Insurance companies should be encouraged to fund accident remedial schemes which will in turn provide additional savings.

OUR CONTRACT WITH SENIOR CITIZENS

WE PLEDGE TO SUPPORT:

- the provision of free travel on public transport to all over 65.
- the provision of free personal and nursing care for older people similar to that provided in Scotland.
- action to ensure that older people claim all the benefits to which they are entitled.
- action to ensure that older people feel safe in their homes.
- the delivery of a substantial increase in the size of the state pension.
- the delivery of free TV licences to all aged over 65.

MAKING ROAD SAFETY A PRIORITY

The DUP has proved that the best quality services can be delivered at a reasonable cost to the taxpayer. Any administration in Northern Ireland must learn to spend the money it receives more effectively rather than expect the population to fund political bureaucracy.
THE DUP’S VISION FOR DEVOLUTION >>>

Internet

Delivering an Effective Police Service:

The DUP has worked tirelessly to block those Patten proposals which were not based on the principle of good policing, but on political judgments.

The DUP took its seats on the Police Board and the work of Ian Paisley Jr, Sammy Wilson and William Hay has prevented many of the Patten recommendations from being enacted.

The DUP’s work on the Policing Board:

- Sammy Wilson argued and achieved the retention of the Chief of the new police service, despite being told it would not be allowed by law.
- It was a motion proposed by Ian Paisley Jr, and seconded by William Hay that ensured that of 22 Police Stations proposed for closure, 20 of them were saved.
- The full time reserve has been maintained thanks to DUP pressure on the Police Board. On average, 30% of officers are on duty at any one time and 15%.
- The Special Branch report endorsed by the Board supported the continuation of the SB despite Sinn Fein/IRA and DUP demands for it to be disbanded.

It was the DUP who ensured that the Police Ombudsman spent £200,000 on investigation reports into the police and that £200,000 is spent on an inquiry every one to two police have round to finish.

The DUP revealed that it was David Trimble who blocked the building of a new Police Training Academy at the Maze Prison site.

The DUP argued for and secured an inquiry into the starting allegations against retired Chief Superintendent Bill Lowry.

DUP members have been fully active on the board unlike the representatives from other parties, including former MP who said they left the Communities to concentrate on the Board, yet the DUP MP for Strangford’s questions in the House of Commons reveal that the former member has one of the worst attendance records on the Board.

We will continue to effectively oppose the 50:50 recruitment policy which stemmed from a proposal made by Kim Magonis. This policy is preventing recruitment at a time when crime is rising and detection rates have fallen.

The Police should not be manipulated for the benefit of Sinn Fein/IRA and this includes any changes to allow terrorist prisoners to sit on District Policing Partnerships and incentives for Sinn Fein/IRA to join the Police Board.

We will continue to work for good policing in Northern Ireland and we know that police officers on the ground welcome the role taken by the DUP in protecting policing here.

The DUP has been vindicated in its opposition to the Patten Report which came about as a result of the Belfast Agreement. Through Patten we have seen the name and badge of the RUC disappear and the introduction of a discriminatory 50:50 recruitment policy for both police officers and civilian staff which was first suggested by the UUP.

Of the 855 recruits who were eligible to be appointed but rejected, 777 were non-Catholics. The DUP has worked tirelessly to block those Patten proposals which were not based on the principle of good policing, but on political judgments.

The DUP took its seats on the Police Board and the work of Ian Paisley Jr, Sammy Wilson and William Hay has prevented many of the Patten recommendations from being enacted.

Our Priorities for Policing & Justice:

The DUP opposes the devolution of Policing and Justice to the institutions created under the Belfast Agreement as decisions would be taken by Sinn Fein members like Gerry Kelly as Minister and would not be accountable to the Assembly. This is entirely unacceptable.

We support the devolution of Policing and Justice in the context of a new agreement and only following a cross-community vote of the Assembly. It is however vital that such arrangements would in no way hinder the fight against crime and should be devised with this in mind.

Dealing with crime and the fear of crime is critical to the quality of life of people in Northern Ireland. We have established a number of priorities in this area.

1) Tougher sentences for serious car crime.
2) Tougher sentences for hate crimes and crimes against the elderly.
3) Presumptive mandatory minimum custodial sentences for repeat burglary.
4) Tougher powers to tackle anti-social behaviour.
5) Delivering justice for the victim and accused in sexual offences.
6) Get tough on criminal and terrorist gangs.

The DUP has taken the lead in promoting and defending the rights of victims and their families through the party’s 10 member dedicated advisory committee. The DUP has been vocal in calling for inquiries into the forgotten atrocities. Dr Paisley has been to the fore in calling for a public inquiry into the Claudy bombing, Iris Robinson has sympathetically promoted the grievances of those injured and the families of those killed at La Mon highlighting their pain and suffering.

The DUP has also been insistent in calling for inquiries into other terrorist atrocities such as Kingsmill, Tenbane, Enniskillen and Shankill Road.

We are committed to:

- The continuation of our valuable Advisory Committee on Involuntary Victims, meeting monthly to address genuine concerns and specific issues.
- Maintaining regular contact with victim’s groups and individual victims.
- Opposing terrorism and those organisations who would seek to promote or sponsor terrorism or as victims.
- Highlighting and addressing the apparent inequalities at the level of funding administered to innocent victims by the government.

- The DUP will continue to campaign for innocent victims.
- We shall lobby government to implement changes which will eliminate inequality in the treatment of victims.
- We believe genuine victims of terrorism should be supported in a suitable and generous manner.

REMEMBERING THE INNOCENT VICTIMS:

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TOURISM IS CENTRAL TO THE PROMOTION & INVESTMENT OF NORTHERN IRELAND PLC

Tourism is central to the promotion and investment of Northern Ireland PLC. Tourism is the mainstay of Northern Ireland’s economy, but it is an under utilised asset that to date has not been permitted to realise its full potential. 47,000 people are employed in the tourist sector. In 2001, 1.7 million tourists visited Northern Ireland, spending £0.3 billion, making it a major industry.

Every sector of the agricultural industry is facing problems. Farmers work some of the longest hours of any workers; yet over the last five years, the average farm income has been below the national minimum wage. Every sector of the agricultural industry is facing problems. Farmers work some of the longest hours of any workers; yet over the last five years, the average farm income has been below the national minimum wage.

Visitors who come to the Province to enjoy our unique and wonderful natural assets such as the Glens Causeway, the Giant’s Causeway, the Mourne Mountains, the Sperrin and the Lakeland, the Sperrins and the Mourne Mountains are not properly catered for in terms of quantity of places to stay and quality of attractions when they do stay. Investment must be strategically directed at our tourism package so that the few millions realised from tourism can increase to hundreds of millions. That is far more than the Northern Ireland tourism industry deserves.

Targeted support must be allocated for the development of the international transportation infrastructure. Consideration should be given to reduced rates on tourism premises, as they are a primary employment provider in the Northern Ireland economy. Investment must be strategically directed at our tourism package so that the few millions realised from tourism can increase to hundreds of millions. That is far more than the Northern Ireland tourism industry deserves.

- The DUP will support voluntary modulation of payment in a reformed CAP system in consultation with farmers. Wherever possible, we will support farmers in the DUP to continue to benefit from their land and natural resources.
- The DUP will work to ensure that the full benefits of CAP reforms are realised by increasing farmers’ incomes and by the improvement of food products for the consumer.
- The DUP will ensure that farmers are given a fair deal from CAP reform. The DUP will support a new-entrants’ scheme providing that it is cost efficient and beneficial to those who have already entered or wish to enter the industry.
- The DUP will ensure that a mechanism is put in place to help farmers cope with incoming environmental legislation.
- Sourcing of local produce allows a shortened food chain which gives consumers increased confidence in their food quality and can also decrease input costs for farmers.
- People must be able to afford a place to live in the countryside. The DUP will support the housing needs of farmers, particularly in rural areas.
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The DUP’s Vision for Devolution

A Better Environment for All

Over the past four years William McCrea has been the Chairman of the Assembly committee for the Department of the Environment.

Over that period the committee has intervened on a number of occasions to ensure that the department moved in the right direction. Significant challenges lie ahead for the DOE including:

- Ensuring that the planning system delivers fast and efficient results.
- Devolving a system of third party appeals which gives rights to objectors but does not allow frivolous claims to delay development.
- Greater liberalisation of the sale of number plates to raise finance.

Establishing the Freedom to Parade

We are committed to:

- Ending the scandalous denial of civil and religious liberties to the Loyal Orders. The Parades Commission has failed in its operation and effective legislation is required to make determinations on parades fairly.
- Putting in place a system that recognises the fundamental rights of freedom of assembly and freedom of expression.
- Ensuring that the process of making determinations on parades and protests in Northern Ireland is accountable.

The Parades Commission has merely sought to legitimise and reward the actions of those who seek to cause trouble by determining parades on the basis of threats of violence by those who oppose the Loyal Orders. Thus the Parades Commission has become part of the problem.

Enhancing a Rich Cultural Tradition

Northern Ireland has a great history in the fields of culture, arts and sporting achievements. The DUP is fully committed to promoting these areas so that we can build on that tradition.

- The Ulster-Scots language and culture is slowly gaining more and more prominence. The DUP is fully committed to the further promotion of what has long been a forgotten culture. Ulster-Scots should have parity of esteem with Irish including equality of funding.
- We wish to see road racing continue in Northern Ireland as a competitive sport. We feel there is room to upgrade Northern Ireland’s road racing tracks.
- Northern Ireland should have a national stadium, but it should not be built at the expense of Irish League football grounds which require improvements.

Human Rights – The Unionist Agenda

The DUP supports a positive Human Rights agenda where fundamental freedoms are protected but the role of the legislature is respected. The Human Rights agenda which has been pursued since the Belfast Agreement has proved to be financially very costly and both sympathetic to nationalism and expansionist in its outlook.

We support:

- A minimalist Bill of Rights.
- Devolution of responsibility for the Human Rights Commission to a Northern Ireland Assembly in a new political settlement.
- A Human Rights Commission which keeps within the boundaries laid down by Parliament.
- Fairness in funding by the Human Rights and Equality Commissions.
- An end to discrimination by the Human Rights Commission.

Human Rights provisions should be supported by both unionists and nationalists. Unless checked both a nationalist Human Rights and Equality Agenda could be damaging to unions and business alike. We believe that unionists should shape the Human Rights agenda in Northern Ireland and not leave it to be dictated by nationalists.

Higher Education: Investing in the Future

The DUP supports extending educational opportunity to as many people as possible in society. It is a crucial building block for any economy.

Northern Ireland desperately needs more third level education places in the Province. It is critical that students from Northern Ireland are given every opportunity to stay here for their education if they so wish.

Entry to third level education must not be dependent on financial means. Any system of student finance must take account of this priority.

Co-operation between business, industry and educational institutions is vital to ensure courses are designed to maximum effect.

Adult illiteracy should be made a thing of the past.
The Ulster Unionist Party betrayed the unionist electorate. Remember how it conned unionists with their slogans, “Vote Yes for the States”?

It created and supported the Belfast Agreement, now it seeks to blame everyone else for its mistakes. Whilst republicans pocketed concessions, the IRA continues with its terrorist activities.

**THE BELFAST AGREEMENT IS WRECKING NORTHERN IRELAND:**

“I KNOW WHO I'M VOTING FOR!”

Four more years of the Belfast Agreement will lead to the destruction of Northern Ireland.

The DUP and the Ulster Unionists want to see it fully implemented, the DUP wants to see it replace by a new agreement.

Only the DUP can be trusted to deliver for unionism.

It’s Time for a Fair Deal.

**Policy Papers:**

These policy documents offer a more detailed analysis of some of the crucial issues which must be dealt with in Northern Ireland:

- Towards a New Agreement
- Joint Declaration
- Policing
- Water Charging
- Victims
- Education
- Senior Citizens Charter
- Business

You can request printed copies of our Policy Papers from:

ULSTER DEMOCRATIC UNIONIST PARTY,
91 DUNDELA AVENUE, BELFAST
NORTHERN IRELAND BT4 3BU

TEL: 028 9047 1155
EMAIL: info@dup.org.uk

Alternatively, you can download PDFs from www.dup.org.uk
The main aim of the DUP at the Assembly election is to win enough seats to end the Belfast Agreement and force negotiations for a new agreement. Any new agreement must satisfy the party’s seven principles and must be acceptable to a majority of unionists as well as a majority of nationalists. Only this outcome can deliver stable and lasting government for Northern Ireland.