

THE CASE AGAINST DEVOLVING POLICING & JUSTICE...

TUV opposes the devolution of policing and justice to an Executive and Assembly in which IRA/Sinn Fein – the party which still justifies IRA murders of policemen and judges and still retains its Army Council – holds sway.

The facts tell their own story:

1. Ending British control of policing and justice has long been a key republican objective. The 2005 Sinn Fein manifesto, put it like this: *"Our strategy is for a new all-Ireland policing and justice system. That cannot be achieved without transfer of policing and justice powers away from London, into an Executive and Assembly and the all-Ireland institutions."*
2. Immediately policing and justice is devolved it indeed comes within the ambit of the all-Ireland institutions as a potential subject for the North/South Ministerial Council, in which Unionists are a permanent minority.
3. Under the Robinson/McGuinness deal no Unionist need apply for the post of Justice Minister, because they have agreed that a non-Unionist stooge will get the office. TUV does not accept that Unionists should be excluded from the Justice Ministry. Yet, Mr Robinson pretends such emasculated devolution is a Unionist victory!
4. The DUP/Sinn Fein shabby deal only limps through to 2012, when again Sinn Fein will have the opportunity to extract new concessions, not least because one of the options provided in the legislation is that policing and justice functions could then pass to the Joint First Ministers! So much for ringfencing us from Sinn Fein control.
5. All cross-cutting issues from the Justice Department must go to the Executive where IRA/Sinn Fein holds a veto.
6. When you consider the shambles of government this dysfunctional Executive has produced, why would anyone want them given control over the sensitive and vital issue of justice? This is an Executive which

can't even deliver on bread and butter issues and which Sinn Fein can hold to ransom at any time, as it has already done. It is no place to decide the crucial issues of policing and justice.

7. The cost of policing and justice cannot be forecast. One turbulent summer or major inquiries could quadruple the cost and cripple expenditure on hospitals and schools, as money is diverted out of the fixed block budget.



Finally, reflect on this: if Sinn Fein is unfit to hold the Justice Ministry – and they are – then, how are they fit to control the education of our children? They are not and should not be in government at all, but those who put them there now want to placate them further by meeting their strategic demand of devolving policing and justice out of British control. And, that to an Assembly and Executive in which Sinn Fein, which supported the murder of policemen and judges, and even yet riotously celebrates the closure of police stations, has the power of veto.

Mr Robinson brands TUV as wreckers. Better to be a wrecker of the IRA/Sinn Fein agenda than a facilitator!



"In the European Election we demonstrated very substantial support for Traditional Unionism right across the Province. Now, as we build on this success and prepare for the Westminster election, I would greatly welcome your help. I invite you to support the Unionist fightback." Jim Allister

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Nothing that is morally wrong can be politically right!



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TOWARDS GOOD GOVERNMENT...

TUV, strong on the Union, remains implacably opposed to the present terrorist-inclusive regime at Stormont, and resolutely committed to good and stable government for Ulster. What we have at present is neither.

"Our view is clear. Sinn Fein is not fit for government. We believe terrorists should be in jail, not government. The present arrangements are a reward for terrorism."
 TUV Manifesto June 2009

THE FAILURE OF BELFAST AGREEMENT DEVOLUTION

The reason why Belfast Agreement devolution has been such a disappointment, hopelessly dysfunctional and lurches from one deadlock to another, is that its foundation is irredeemably flawed. The common purpose essential to good government is absent. Instead it is built on the sand of equating and empowering irreconcilable differences. No government can deliver conflicting unionist and republican objectives at one and the same time. It is not an historic compromise, it is a hopeless hotchpotch, where serial deadlock is inevitable.



AN UNWORKABLE COMBINATION

In both mandatory coalition and the unworkable office of the Joint First Ministers we have a combination that is bound to fail. The equal veto held by the DUP and Sinn Fein guarantees paralysis and the enforced absence of an Opposition conveniently avoids any challenge. Hence what we have seen is a dearth of legislation, an impasse in education, 6 months of Executive strike in 2008, the irrelevance of Stormont in tackling the credit crunch, abuse of expenses and the absence of any beneficial impact on the lives of ordinary people. And all this at a cost of millions!



The essentials of good government

Good government comes from common purpose and stable structures, with democracy at its heart. The right to change your government and vote a party out of office is the essence of democracy. Yet, at the core of mandatory coalition is the denial of that basic right. Hence, it can never be the basis for good and durable government. Its removal is a prerequisite. Likewise, at the top of government workable authority is indispensable. The office of Joint First Ministers is an unworkable farce. So, it too must go and be replaced by separate, free-standing offices of a First Minister and a deputy.

The route to good government

TUV is certainly opposed to terrorists in government, but as we've often said we are not opposed to shared government. The proper route to shared government, with no party in Northern Ireland capable of forming a government on its own, is voluntary coalition.

So, within the framework of devolution, how is good government attained? By the practice of normal politics and negotiation after every election. Those who can agree a platform and collectively command the requisite majority (which arguably could even be a qualified majority of 60% so as to guarantee partnership government) form the government, those who cannot, form the Opposition, challenging and affording voters an alternative at the next election.

Democracy at work

TUV would not be entering government with IRA/Sinn Fein under any system. Distasteful as it would be to us, if IRA/Sinn Fein can by persuasion of others attain government by the regular route of voluntary coalition, from which the electorate have the right to remove them at the next election, then we would have to accept such and perform the role of Opposition. We can accept the rules of democracy, why should others benefit from special pleading and provision? If the answer is because of fear that the supposedly now democratic IRA/Sinn Fein would take us back to "the bad old days", then, we are being blackmailed as well as conned. If Sinn Fein are only democrats so long as they are in government, then, they are not democrats at all!

Why should Northern Ireland be the only place in the democratic world where by law you cannot vote a



Stormont hotchpotch. Ingredients: terrorists in government; no right to vote a party out; no Opposition.

party out of government and by law you cannot have an Opposition? It shouldn't be, but alas TUV is the only party prepared to say so and to act to insist on the banishment of this insult to democracy. Others pretend dislike of mandatory coalition but happily operate it every day as their ticket to office. They could end it now, but the shackles and lure of office bind them.

claim otherwise, because without it they will have no Stormont and that would never suit politicians and parties wholly dependent on it as their financial and political lifeline.

The democratic imperative against mandatory coalition cannot be resisted long-term. Aided by the infusion of sufficient Traditional Unionist MLAs it cannot survive. Certainly, voting for those operating mandatory coalition and thus Sinn Fein rule will only perpetuate it, but electing those opposed will compel change.

NO terrorists in government!

Irrespective of the precise mechanism devised to form an administration in Northern Ireland, **Traditional Unionist Voice** believes that, both in deference to the innocent victims of the past and as a protection for the future, for all time there should be statutory testimony to there being no reward for terrorism. Thus, we propose that it should be provided in primary legislation that **no one with a terrorist conviction can ever hold ministerial office**. If terrorist groupings do in time transform into exclusively democratic parties, then this would be a decreasing imposition, but, nonetheless a timely reminder of the political price to be paid for terrorism, or reversion thereto. And, it would show fitting respect for the victims of terrorism.



Terrorism should never pay. Indeed, it should carry a lifelong disincentive. Hence, the logic and necessity of a statutory provision which puts government office beyond the reach of anyone – 'loyalist' or republican – with a terrorist conviction. Why should the innocent victims of terrorism pay a life-long price, but the guilty perpetrators be able to gain the highest offices in the land? This perversion of justice and democracy must be reversed. We believe that which is morally wrong can never be politically right! So, TUV believes that by law we should have **no terrorists in government**, whereas the purpose of mandatory coalition is to guarantee terrorists in government.]



No to rigged devolution

If – which we don't accept – Northern Ireland can't have devolution without Sinn Fein always in government, then why should Unionists want such rigged devolution, which puts at the heart of government those still dedicated to Ulster's destruction?

But, if acceptable devolution isn't attainable, then what is wrong with enhanced local government? You don't need 108 MLAs, 11 Departments, 14 Ministers and all the vast expense that goes with it to administer the affairs of just 1.7 million people. Streamlined local government combined with a single elected authority to corporately administer education, health and roads could easily provide efficient and sufficient government.



Below: Ian Paisley Junior 'joyriding' in government with convicted IRA terrorist, Murphy and 'educational terrorist' Ruane!

