

In drawing up this Manifesto, the Executive Committee of the Progressive Unionist Party recognises the complexity and will always recognise the complexity of the Northern Ireland political scenario.

The Progressive Unionist Party is a fiercely British political party within the United Kingdom framework. We recognise that it is within the shadow of Big Ben that the major decisions affecting the lives of our people will be made. We believe in the British way of life. We are totally opposed to the undemocratic formation of a new unitary Irish State without a referendum of the people of Northern Ireland agreeing to Constitutional change by a majority decision of not less than seventy percent in favour. There is no simple majority that can make crucial constitutional change. It is not an issue where a simple vote decides a shareholder's majority or paves the way to overtime on some factory floor . . . it is a crucial issue which decides the fate of tens of thousands of people.

Having made our position clear on the foregoing issue we recognise also that this election is about Local Councils and who will best represent the interests of all the people at that level. The City Councils and District Councils are responsible for the running of Local Services like Parks, Community and Leisure Centres and Road Sweeping. It has a voice in Housing and Planning. It has no say whatsoever in Constitutional issues. We recognise that issues of greater magnitude are on the horizon, but that they will be handled by different bodies in different ways. They will most certainly not be matters that can be sorted out by Town Councils.

Over the past four years, Sinn Fein Councillors and other Republican Councillors have sat in Belfast City Council and in District Councils throughout Northern Ireland. They have taken their seats and involved themselves in Committee work for four years before the major parties have decided that they can not tolerate them. Progressive Unionist Councillors will not boycott Committees and Town Halls and leave Republican Movement Councillors to run those Institutions. The Progressive Unionist Party recognises that the only people who can put an end to the advances of Sinn Fein are Catholic voters, who it is hoped will eventually see the futility of the armalite strategy and opt for the more progressive elements in their areas.

We have maintained for many years now, that it is possible to obtain peace and reconciliation in our community. But it must commence IN THE COMMUNITY among the representatives of ALL on a totally non-sectarian basis. This offer of "agreeing to differ" on the constitutional issue has already brought a system of cross-~~community~~ voting within City Councils, certainly it was witnessed in Belfast City Hall in the past with Loyalists and Nationalists agreeing on matters common to their respective communities and setting the divisive border issue aside. Of course it would be wrong to classify Sinn Fein in the role of conciliators whilst they continue their campaign of violence. The first duty of Sinn Fein for the community should be to persuade the Provisional IRA that a declared ceasefire is in the interests of the whole community, leaving Sinn Fein to pursue legitimate consensus political aims. Any other road leads to the Lebanon and few people really want that terrible conflict here.

- P** Progressive policies put forward by progressive Unionists . . . the growing voice of Ulster Workers.
- R** Resist job losses that will inevitably be brought about by privatisation in the public sector.
- O** Oppose the increasing attacks upon the British Welfare State system at local level. Resist the Government and its attempts to lower standards of living to the level of the Irish Republic and other European States.
- G** Give assistance to workers and unemployed persons alike in the vital area of local representation on their behalf where Trades Union representation is not available. (Unfair dismissal tribunals, etc.)
- R** Resist attempts to undermine Local Wages Councils. Progressive Unionists already sit on Trades Union and Trades Council Committees.
- E** Exploit local energy resources to enhance the future prosperity of this region of the United Kingdom. Continue pressure for the expansion of North Sea gas to Northern Ireland.
- S** Support the campaign for better conditions and equal rights for all senior citizens.
- S** Support our campaign for better leisure facilities for ALL areas of Northern Ireland, bringing to an end the second class citizenship of some of our rural areas.
- I** Insist on ending the alien laws applying to this part of the United Kingdom and put an end to the un-British No-Jury Courts where citizens of this region are charged, detained and convicted on the uncorroborated statements of villains.
- V** Veto Government plans to cut Local Government services. (Retain the Home-Help system.)
- E** Encourage local youth to oppose dead-end Youth Training programmes that have brought little more than virtual slave status to young people.

**A Vote for the Progressive Unionist Party is
A VOTE FOR PROGRESS**