

PUTTING LOCAL PEOPLE FIRST



NORTHERN IRELAND
ASSEMBLY ELECTION
MANIFESTO 2011



BRITISH
NATIONAL
PARTY

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Contents

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 4 | Introduction |
| 6 | Rebuilding Democracy and Dismantling State Surveillance |
| 7 | Local Rates |
| 9 | Homes for Local People |
| 10 | A Healthy Nation |
| 13 | Education – Not Ashamed of Excellence |
| 15 | Policing, Security and Justice for Safer Communities |
| 17 | Business and Economy |
| 19 | Northern Irish Culture |
| 21 | Keeping Northern Ireland Moving |
| 22 | Food from Our Farms |
| 23 | Global Warming |
| 24 | Planning and Licensing |
| 26 | Refuse and Recycling |

Introduction



The devolved responsibilities of Stormont are meaningless in a regime where most matters of national, regional and local importance are dictated by legislation from the unelected EU Commissioners who initiate approximately 75% of British and therefore Northern Ireland's laws.

Although it is an issue beyond the legislative abilities of Stormont, all British National Party MLAs (Members of the Legislative Assembly) would use their influence to persuade Westminster to set Britain free by withdrawing from the European Union.

We will constantly remind the Northern Irish electorate exactly why many issues of policy cannot be enacted because of the limits placed upon Stormont by the Directives and Regulations that originate from the EU and which – regardless of the democratically expressed wishes of voters – cannot be repealed while the United Kingdom remains in the European Union.

British National Party MLAs will hold every political party and every politician to account for their pitiful and deafening silence on the two great unmentionables of our times: the multicultural society and the European Union.

These sinister projects have been imposed upon the electorate without any consultation or consent whatsoever, and their impact on our prosperity, freedom and identity will continue to worsen until the public decisively reject their political sponsors at the ballot box. In the meantime, our MLAs will highlight the waste of money and other evils to which they give rise.

We will also expose the scandals of the politically correct spending of public finances, and highlight corruption, sleaze and inefficiency within the Northern Ireland Assembly.

There is much that can be achieved through Stormont, and the British National Party is committed to working at all levels to achieve genuine equality of opportunity for the people of Northern Ireland, aspiring towards academic excellence, a healthy nation with homes fit for the 21st century, thriving and prosperous small business conditions to create new jobs to replace those lost through globalisation, and a clean and pleasant environment for all to enjoy.

We believe that much more could be achieved in Stormont if there were an end to the constant bickering we witness time and time again between the current elected representatives who appear to be more interested in sectarian point-scoring over one another than they are with the day-to-day needs of the indigenous people who voted them into their positions of power.

The British National Party, with your help, would like to be the VOICE of ordinary people who fear for their future and that of their children under the present government and the 'established' political parties, with their multicultural agenda, surrender to EU rule and Orwellian ideology of Political Correctness.

We are witness to the decline of a once-proud nation, which as part of the United Kingdom, played a significant role in some of the most important developments in history, engineering, medicine, culture, music, art, law, constitutional development, Christianity and literary genius.

Its bravest forebears witnessed victory in battle on every continent; its brightest minds have constructed magnificent cathedrals, civic buildings, bridges, canals, railways and much else.

Today, many who have inherited this great legacy are at last prepared to speak out about the betrayal of their nation by the out-of-touch political elite, and to promote a positive vision for a better future. Their voice is one of common sense and is a reflection of the opinion of thousands of Northern Ireland's citizens.

That voice is needed to address the pressing issues that blight our nation and children's future. That voice is needed to speak of the ways in which we can make Northern Ireland better. That voice is of the British National Party in Northern Ireland.

Steven Moore

British National Party

Organiser for Northern Ireland

REBUILDING DEMOCRACY AND DISMANTLING STATE SURVEILLANCE

The British National Party will oppose the imposition of compulsory biometric identity cards. We maintain it is not the task of the people of Northern Ireland to justify our existence to the state; rather it is the task of the state to justify its existence to the people of Northern Ireland.

We will work to restore the integrity of government organisations in their handling and security of personal details and the data of individuals. We will stop all such data being sent out of the country for 'processing', and we will end the abhorrent practice of government-held data being sold to anyone who wishes to buy it.

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We are committed to rescinding all anti-free-speech laws, and we will vigorously defend the right to freedom of assembly for all British citizens.

We support the abolition of the Human Rights Act, imposed on us by the European Union, and its replacement with an updated British Bill of Rights.

LOCAL RATES

Our aim with respect to local taxation is to cut the bills for all residents while also endeavouring to ensure that as many people as possible contribute, fairly, towards local taxation, under the principle that this encourages responsible citizenship and enhances stakeholder participation.

We would retain local rates as the primary local form of taxation. It is a property tax, and there is an existing method of collecting it. As it is based on property, it is practical for the local authority to assess the total local liability and so calculate its own budget.

Rates as a source of local authorities' revenue have fallen into disrepute primarily because the bills have risen so much, due to incompetent local government wasting money. We need a system that is seen to be fair, which is not costly to the resident, contains the minimum of bureaucracy and which enhances local responsibility and accountability. Furthermore, it must encourage the independence and self-reliance of our local communities.

Most local residents will contribute towards local rates, but a sliding scale system, which will protect the low-paid and pensioners must be introduced. This scale would cover a fair proportion of such vulnerable people's rates liability.

British military personnel serving on active duty at home or abroad should be exempt from paying rates. Likewise, their spouses should also be exempt from this burden, as their loved ones are putting their lives at risk in the service of our country.

Unlike the Establishment political parties, the British National Party is not afraid to discuss the immigration and asylum crisis, imposed upon the UK by the political elite without any consultation or consent whatsoever.

We need a system that is seen to be fair, which is not costly to the resident, contains the minimum of bureaucracy and which enhances local responsibility and accountability

Two significant contributing factors to the ever-rising rates are the central government's bloated, inefficient and wasteful bureaucracy and the increasing waves of asylum seekers and immigrants who are flooding into this country with the blessing of most of our elected representatives. This places a huge burden on services and the welfare system.

The presence of 'cheap' Eastern European labour (which proponents claim brings economic benefit) in reality only adds to the cost of providing essential services at a time of high local unemployment. In addition, this influx has increased local unemployment and benefit dependency amongst our own poor, which in turn increases the burden borne by our taxpayers.

Government departments waste our taxes on a range of costly politically correct schemes and grants for ethnic minority and multicultural groups. These include the NI Muslim Women's Association, the Roma Advice Centre and a multitude of other expensive and divisive projects and initiatives, including foreign-language courses and interpreters. The old parties' elected representatives have frequently been at the forefront of these initiatives, which well demonstrates the bogus nature of their claim to support the national interests of Northern Ireland and its people.

All of these 'services' drain away financial resources that could be put to much better use and directly erode the social cohesion and culture of local communities.

The NI Government Departments carry out these programmes either because they are legally obliged to do so in terms of central government or European regulation, or they do it for their own pernicious politically correct, foreign-vote-grabbing, nation-destroying purposes. Neither is acceptable.

**British National Party MLAs [...] will reveal
the vast amounts of money wasted on these
programmes by the out-of-touch liberal-left
consensus within Stormont**

British National Party MLAs will act as whistle blowers, bringing the facts of these abuses to the public's attention and will reveal the vast amounts of money wasted on these programmes by the out-of-touch liberal-left consensus within Stormont. We aim to be the eyes, ears and mouthpiece of ordinary taxpayers who are all too often treated merely as tax milk cows by the political elite.

HOMES FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

We vigorously oppose the building of new houses on greenbelt land.

Although there is a serious housing shortage, we recognise that this is largely caused by the influx of bogus asylum seekers and economic migrants. Most of those who support new housing schemes indirectly facilitate the influx of these migrants.

We would press for the building of new social housing and the regeneration of existing social housing, which should be affordable for ordinary working-class people.

We broadly support urban infilling, with brownfield land being re-utilised, but not where this would create too dense levels of urban development or where it would put too much strain on the local infrastructure (roads, schools, hospitals etc.).

We would, however, encourage the 'right to buy' scheme. This is an excellent opportunity to create a responsible, stakeholding, property-owning population.

A local authority would, however, be obliged to ensure that there is a sensible and fair proportion of rentable Housing Executive housing available.

All revenues obtained from council house sales should be used to finance the building of new council houses, which will be available at affordable rents. Priority in the allocation of social housing should go to local people with family connections to the area.

We would ensure that social housing occupancy and local residency prior to their signing up would be taken into account when former service personnel apply for homes. We would also give added weighting to the veterans of active military service, to ensure that those who have served their country are housed in decent homes rather than being left to rough it on the streets.

We would also ensure that local authorities have the necessary powers to evict anti-social tenants from social housing if they persistently disregard the rights of their neighbours.

Asylum seekers and economic migrants should not qualify for social housing, nor would they be eligible for housing benefit. Social housing should be reserved for Northern Ireland's citizens only.

Asylum seekers should be housed in secure temporary accommodation until they can be returned to one of the safe countries through which they passed to reach soft-touch Britain.

A HEALTHY NATION

Hospitals (and health service provision in general) should be brought under local democratic control.

Although the level of funding should be set by central government, local control of how the budget is spent is vital to ensure the proper provision of such services as local health centres, GP services and dental services.

We stand opposed to any closures of hospitals or removal of hospital services. We would ensure the maintenance of all acute services currently under threat.

We will not tolerate health service provision based on a 'postcode lottery' system. Wherever we live in Northern Ireland, we should be entitled to receive the same (highest) standard of care as anywhere else in the United Kingdom.

There should also be an efficient, readily available out-of-hours emergency service for accident and casualty cases, and emergency out-of-hours dental treatment.

Currently, decisions are made by overpaid health service managers, who form part of an overpaid and overstaffed bureaucracy, which often has little regard for local opinion.

As a matter of principle, we oppose the recruitment of foreign staff in the health service. Inevitably, such personnel have been trained to a different standard compared to UK-trained staff. In addition, many are unable to speak English to the required standard, and this means that they are not able to communicate effectively with many frail, vulnerable or elderly patients.

Recruiting foreign health workers is a form of theft. It is totally immoral and a shocking example of inverted racism to lure away health workers from countries that have a far greater need for those workers than we do. This matter of poaching African health workers was recently highlighted by the President of Mali in a speech to the EU Parliament.

Northern Ireland's citizens must not be placed at the back of the medical queue at doctors' surgeries, health centres, dentists or any other medical facility

We should recruit and keep our own staff in this country by paying decent wages. Stealing staff from abroad is no solution. The only exception would be the temporary employment of foreign specialists for use in training our health service staff to levels of excellence.

The British National Party's immediate halt to all taxpayer-funded translation services would save our health system large sums of money, which should be used to help patients with medical needs. Northern Ireland's citizens must not be placed at the back of the medical queue at doctors' surgeries, health centres, dentists or any other medical facility simply because asylum seekers or economic migrants require expensive translator services during their treatment or consultation.

Standards should be raised in the health service by bringing back the sort of strict discipline and hierarchies that were the norm in the 1960s, where the matron oversaw responsibilities in her own ward.

The health service should only be there for UK citizens and those countries with which Britain has reciprocal agreements of an equivalent standard

This will include strict standards of cleanliness that used to be the norm prior to the decline caused by Thatcherite 'market' policies. Together with more careful use of antibiotics, this will help to reduce the shocking rates of MRSA infections, which kill and infect thousands of patients every year, costing the health service a fortune in extra treatments and compensation.

The health service should only be there for UK citizens and those countries with which Britain has reciprocal agreements of an equivalent standard. 'Health tourism' is estimated to cost the UK taxpayer over £2 billion per annum and must cease.

Superficial cosmetic and lifestyle treatments should not be provided free on the health service at a cost to the taxpayer. Sex change operations and breast enhancement procedures should not be funded by the taxpayer while genuinely ill people are dying through no fault of their own because their treatment is not being funded.

The revenue-raising exploitation of patients and visitors by management trusts using taxpayer-funded resources is immoral. We would oppose such rackets as 'pay and display' hospital car parking, extortionate charges for incoming and outgoing telephone calls for patients and 'pay to view' TV for patients etc. The victims, as always, are the elderly and poor, who can ill-afford such expenses when they visit sick relatives.

The bureaucracy of the health service and high-salaried managers must be slashed dramatically so that more money is made available for expensive but vital treatments, more beds and more doctors and nurses. To this end, the British National Party would remove 100,000 NHS bureaucrats UK-wide.

With the health service being controlled by the local authorities and run on a day-to-day basis by experienced medical staff rather than by target-obsessed managers, the current wasteful duplication of bureaucracy and demoralisation of staff will be eliminated.

Many of Northern Ireland's communities are blighted by drug use. We will build a network of drug rehabilitation clinics to assist in the war against this scourge.

In addition to helping addicts recover, we will also press for zero tolerance of all drugs in schools and other institutions and strict enforcement of that policy by the police.

We shall press for the strictest penalties for the pushers and distributors of drugs, which cost the taxpayer so much in terms of policing and rehabilitation of victims, as well as wrecking families and producing a drug-fuelled crime wave.

We will campaign tirelessly for the reversal of the medically and socially disastrous downgrading of cannabis, which has been proven to have detrimental long-term consequences. We shall also campaign for compulsory life sentences for the pushers of Class A drugs such as heroin and crack cocaine.

We are aware of the adverse consequences of poor diet and the lack of exercise in terms of the health of the individual, and we shall conduct a public education campaign to improve diet, which, in time, will have advantageous results in terms of reduced hospital admissions.

EDUCATION – NOT ASHAMED OF EXCELLENCE

The UK once led the world in education and technology. Northern Ireland, in particular, has traditionally achieved amongst the best exam results in the whole of the UK.

Sadly, years of liberal-left indoctrination have eroded our people's knowledge of their own history and our technical and scientific expertise. Concentrating on indoctrination at the expense of education has led to a collapse in educational standards. In an effort to conceal this, politicians and teaching unions have dumbed down exams to the point that employers complain that students now produce worthless certificates but are unable to spell. In many areas, there is an absence of classroom discipline.

It is important that a uniform – which encourages esprit de corps – and a high standard of local education be provided for all throughout Northern Ireland. Compulsory minimum standards must be set and adhered to.

In accordance with our aim to devolve democratic accountability to the lowest level, there should be a degree of local influence over local education policy. Parents and school governing bodies should together have a say on what emphasis should be placed, and what proportion of a school's budget should be spent, on what priorities (apart from meeting the minimum standards criteria).

Greater power should be devolved to parents through governing bodies with respect to the hiring and firing of staff

Thus, parents themselves should be able to influence to a degree whether their school places more or less emphasis on language, science, music or sport facilities, for example.

Greater power should be devolved to parents through governing bodies with respect to the hiring and firing of staff (for example the incompetent or those who try to push their own agenda) and appointment of governors who, within limits, could set the curriculum and determine policy on school uniforms and corporal punishment (within strict criteria).

It is British National Party policy to enforce a degree of central direction in education in such matters as:

- A return to the use of the proven system of phonics in teaching children to read
- The protection of the grammar school system. This is essential for the restoration of social mobility and provision of top-quality academic education for bright pupils, regardless of family background, parental income or where they live

- A return to traditional teaching methods, with emphasis placed on the 'Three Rs': 'Reading, wRiting and aRithmetic'
- A return to discipline in the classroom
- The reintroduction of competitive sports
- The encouragement of healthy outdoor activity and opposition to the sale of sports fields
- An emphasis on the appreciation of British and local history and culture
- A ban on politically correct indoctrination
- The preservation of Christian values as a benchmark in all schools as a foundation for a decent and stable society. In practical terms, we would insist on the reintroduction of Christian Assemblies (where there are none) in all schools

While it is, in some instances, wholly appropriate to include study of foreign languages, customs, history, geography and religion, this should be done in the proper context and not abused as a means for politically correct indoctrination.

Our educational establishments should be training people to be good citizens and useful employees in the workplace. Our children should leave school with the ability to compete and prosper.

Schools would become beacons in reviving and cherishing local history, traditions and culture.

Our universities should be centres of academic excellence. Absolute numbers of graduates leaving university are meaningless if there are no relevant jobs for graduates.

Individuals and the nation in general may have benefited more if those individuals had undertaken courses at different centres of learning, undergoing vocational training or trades apprenticeships.

Once in national government, we would provide all young people, who have the necessary academic ability, the chance to benefit from a university education. Those who have the necessary academic ability and who have completed a period of military and civilian community service, and who are studying in areas for which there is genuine economic or social need – especially the sciences, engineering, physics and technology – would receive their university education free of charge.

We do not consider the provision of university degrees in courses such as 'beach management', game-keeping and so on as appropriate, and we believe these are better provided by suitable colleges and learnt as apprenticeships.

POLICING, SECURITY AND JUSTICE FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES

The police force should be integrated into the community and work closely with locally elected representatives.

We call for local police stations to be manned for longer hours, instead of police services being centralised in often-distant locations, remote from the communities they serve. Police officers should be freed from attending to unnecessary paperwork and bureaucracy.

We will abolish all 'tax-trap' speed surveillance cameras on our roads, except those which are in clearly identified accident black spots. The revenue from such cameras will be used to fund support for accident victims, not to support government budgets.

We will restore proper policing of our roads. We also oppose any attempts by the government or the EU to impose 'spy in the car' devices for any purpose, whether for 'pay as you drive' charging or for 'surveillance tracking' by the state.

To reduce crime, we must rebuild the bonds that bind society together around shared values and a shared identity

We believe in small government and individual liberty. However, the autocratic liberal regime has presided over a near-total breakdown in law and order. This breakdown has been caused by a collapse in civic responsibility and, in certain areas, high immigration.

We live in a society where there is little or no pride in certain local areas, where there is little community spirit and where elderly people, the frail and the vulnerable are not valued but are viewed by significant sections of the population as 'easy targets'.

Immigration is a contributory factor, which 'Balkanises' the nation state – as it is designed to do by central government and the EU.

To reduce crime, we must rebuild the bonds that bind society together around shared values and a shared identity. Unfortunately, until this is done, we must rely upon CCTV cameras in our town centres.

We must have more visible policing and stricter sentencing. We must support the victims of crime and be harsh with the perpetrators. We are not so concerned with the rights of the guilty: they surrendered their civil rights when they engaged in law-breaking against the innocent – and hence the community as a whole.

In the politically correct nightmare into which our country has been plunged, paedophiles, rapists and murderers seem to have more protection under the law than law-abiding citizens.

The police should concentrate on the pursuit of real criminals and should cease unnecessarily harassing motorists and other safe, easy-to-target (and basically law-abiding) people.

The police should not be bound by political correctness in targeting criminality, nor should they be swamped in red tape, particularly the form-filling imposed on them by the last Conservative government's PACE (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, which we are pledged to abolish.

We entirely oppose the extension of voting rights to prisoners, who forfeited their rights when they broke the law.

We wholeheartedly support the right of the householders and property owners to defend their property from intruders and criminals, regardless of the employment of force in support of such.

We believe that the vast prison population should be harnessed to provide free labour for such community projects as improving sea defences, for example. We would make prisons and temporary on-site work bases austere (it currently costs £95,000 per annum to keep a prisoner in Northern Ireland) and ensure criminals serve their full sentences. Time should be added on for bad behaviour, not taken off for good. Our view is that prisons are supposed to be a deterrent, not a holiday camp!

British National Party MLAs would campaign for our Assembly, and the other devolved assemblies in the United Kingdom, to put pressure on the Westminster administration for a referendum on the restoration of capital punishment.

We would ensure that our border with the Irish Republic, which is currently wide open, is properly policed to prevent illegal immigration and dissident terrorist activity.

Until these measures can be implemented, British National Party MLAs will support any proposals which help to put more officers on the streets of our communities to fight crime. We oppose any proposals which make the police more remote, unaccountable or more powerful with regard to law-abiding citizens.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMY

The development of local businesses will be encouraged through rate relief planning laws.

We will ensure that business is not smothered in red tape and constant inspection by official snoopers and busybodies.

We are aware of the enormous weight of regulation which emanates from the EU and stifles initiative. Until we leave the EU (subject to a referendum) – which is our ambition – we remain powerless to address this burden.

We will commission a review into the calculation and application of business rates by Northern Ireland's local authorities to ensure that locally based businesses are not disadvantaged compared to those operating in other parts of the UK.

**Not all businesses are or need to be hi-tech.
We will ensure the survival of the traditional
trades and crafts that have been passed
down through the centuries**

The rural/urban divide in access to the latest technology must be bridged. We are pledged to assist financially the roll-out of high-speed broadband telecoms services beyond our towns and cities. Rural communities should not be disadvantaged from gaining access to this vital tool.

Not all businesses are or need to be hi-tech. We will ensure the survival of the traditional trades and crafts that have been passed down through the centuries.

The wisdom, cultural value and tourism and other economic potential inherent in the old crafts of weaving, musical-instrument manufacture, stone-wall construction, farriers, saddlers and others, must never be lost. Under our programme, there will be Stormont funding to allow these small enterprises and cottage industries to take on apprentices.

This will ensure that these skills be passed on and continue to develop quality products and attractive environments for the domestic, tourist and export markets.

British National Party MLAs will campaign, because of our geographic position – unique in the UK – sharing a land border with another EU country, for a lowering of corporation tax. As the corporation tax in the UK is currently 28% (at the time of writing) and only 12.5% in the Irish Republic, it is clear that in order to compete, a 'level playing field' is required.

We do not seek to interfere in the affairs of the Irish Republic by pressing them to reduce theirs, so we will campaign to lower ours.

In addition, British National Party MLAs would campaign for our Assembly to save £billions by demanding that Westminster end the following:

- The £4.5-billion war in Afghanistan, which does not serve the United Kingdom's interests.
- The spending of an estimated £13 billion subsidising immigration, asylum and multiculturalism.
- Our membership of the EU (subject to a referendum), which currently costs the UK £15 billion per annum in direct membership fees and has removed our traditional sovereignty and democracy.

The £18 billion the UK government wastes each year on scientifically discredited 'climate change' hysteria

- Foreign aid, which presently costs us £12 billion per annum; some of the recipients of this aid have nuclear arms and space programmes.
- The £18 billion the UK government wastes each year on scientifically discredited 'climate change' hysteria.

Every penny squandered on the aforementioned means our own people go without!

NORTHERN IRISH CULTURE

Culture is a much-neglected but very important subject. We wish to create a society of stakeholders in which residents feel that culture forms an important part of their community and that they in turn are a vital part of it.

The British National Party recognises that in Northern Ireland we have a shared heritage and two unique cultures, both of which are indigenous to the British Isles.

Promoting the culture and the history of a district is a vital ingredient in helping to establish a local community feeling.

However, the British National Party opposes the use of any language or culture as a political weapon in the game of 'one-upmanship'. As there is no bar on anyone learning their respective languages and expressing their cultures, the British National Party does not see the need for an Irish Language Act and will oppose any attempt to bring this about.

Local cultures have been developed over centuries of human interaction. The liberal regime has deliberately sought to destroy local particularism in a bid for conformity and dull uniformity. It has also sought to promote the culture and identity of minorities, at taxpayers' expense.

Mass immigration is particularly damaging to poor communities and areas, and to places where ancient local cultures are already under threat from globalisation.

British National Party MLAs will at all times base their policies and voting decisions on the principle that local people and the culture of local communities must be put first.

Local councils would be responsible for encouraging local festivals and officially recognising events such as the Twelfth of July and St Patrick's Day. Local councils would not be expected to spend large sums of money on these events but would act as sponsor to local voluntary efforts.

Mass immigration is particularly damaging to poor communities and areas, and to places where ancient local cultures are already under threat from globalisation

Local councils would also be required to celebrate and mark traditional festivals such as Easter and Christmas.

The British National Party takes the view that Northern Ireland is a Christian country and that our society is based on Christian values. Therefore we will ensure that our Christian heritage be preserved in the public life of the province.

No public body would be allowed to officially celebrate or mark a non-indigenous or minority festival or holiday.

Schools, libraries, museums and civic theatres would all be expected to contribute in different ways all year round to the cultural health of our local communities.

Culture is, of course, not just an historic entity. Our unique culture needs to be kept alive in the face of globalisation and standardisation. We recognise that the preservation of local indigenous culture takes effort and money, and affirm that the price is worth paying.

British National Party Northern Ireland would actively encourage the development of living participation spectacles, historic re-enactments and pageants.

Northern Ireland is part of the Western European family of nations, and public sponsorship of the Arts in general must reflect that family association.

KEEPING NORTHERN IRELAND MOVING

Local authorities have a tendency to abuse their control over local roads by putting double-yellow lines on all available spaces and charging for parking in every available plot.

This is killing off commerce in town centres and driving trade to out-of-town shopping centres. It also penalises local residents and makes it difficult for people to visit relatives and so forth.

It is part of a control-freak attitude and also a mentality that seeks to make money by every possible means. Raising revenue in this manner is extremely regressive and hits the poor much harder than the well-off, more of whom would tend to be able to afford garages and off-street parking.

We would encourage free car parking, especially in our town centres. We will oppose current proposals to extend the street parking charges to many town centres outside Belfast, and where possible, adjacent to train stations. This would encourage trade in our town centres and encourage people to use public transport to commute to work.

Public transport throughout Northern Ireland must be seen as a not-for-profit service

There is also a mania for speed humps in inappropriate roads, which is a waste of resources, damages cars and increases pollution.

Bus and train transport should be integrated with sensible timetabling.

Since large parts of Northern Ireland are rural, we recognise the need to deal with the fast-growing challenge of global oil depletion by a long-term programme to improve the reach, frequency and attractiveness of public transport, rather than punishing motorists with ever-higher taxes which are then spent on projects other than transport.

In Northern Ireland, the politically correct parties' war on the motorist is a crippling burden on the rural poor.

Public transport throughout Northern Ireland must be seen as a not-for-profit service. We are committed to bringing essential monopoly transport services back into the public domain rather than allowing private companies to make large profits from government subsidies.

FOOD FROM OUR FARMS

Northern Ireland's farmers and fishermen (and the rural communities that depend upon them) are under threat. They are endangered by the agricultural policies of the EU, and while Europe continues to hold sway over our food production, Stormont is effectively powerless to provide the much-needed assistance our communities require.

Our membership of the EU, which the old established parties support, has caused the depletion of our fishing stocks. Our ambition is to re-establish our 200-mile fishing zone once we have left the EU.

Northern Ireland alone cannot withdraw from the EU, but as part of our national platform, we will engage a debate to remove all of the UK wholly from the EU.

Our ambition is to re-establish our 200-mile fishing zone once we have left the EU

We will continue to work with our neighbours in Europe on issues where we can be of assistance and where it is mutually beneficial.

Under the banner 'local is best' we will encourage (through legislative and financial means and public moral pressure) all public bodies to buy locally produced food for schools, hospitals, police canteens, prisons and other outlets.

A government-sponsored organic foods advisory body will be established to accelerate the switch to organic methods of food production.

We are committed to ban the horrific practice of halal ritual slaughter anywhere in Northern Ireland on the grounds of animal cruelty. In addition, we will prohibit the supply, use and distribution of all halal-ritual-slaughter-derived products by all publicly funded organisations within Northern Ireland.

This will include schools and educational establishments, where halal products could be provided without the knowledge or consent of parents and children.

GLOBAL WARMING

The cult of 'global warming' or 'climate change' is a pretext to impose international governance and even higher taxes on the necessary use of fuel for domestic and industrial purposes. Huge expenditures on inefficient wind farms, to the detriment of essential winter services, have cost lives on Northern Ireland's roads and caused the death of thousands of our pensioners from hypothermia.

We support the use of naturally generated renewable energy where it is efficient and cheap. We condemn the vast hidden subsidies to finance inefficient alternative energy schemes, which are costing UK consumers £12 billion per annum in disguised charges to energy bills.

We note the fraudulent activities of the IPCC, including the falsified data employed to facilitate the impression of climate change in the same year that recorded the coldest UK December since 1890.

It is clear to us that a vast industry of well-paid bureaucrats, commercial and business concerns, bankers, green lobbyists, politicians and vested interests stand to gain handsomely from the concept of 'man-made climate change', which has never been properly debated or examined. Indeed, there is an enormous weight of evidence, which may be sourced via the internet, that questions the entire thesis of man-made 'global warming'.

In common with the rest of the United Kingdom, however, N Ireland does face a looming power shortage. This needs to be met by Stormont working in conjunction with Westminster to institute an urgent programme for the building of new generations of clean coal-fired and ultra-safe molten salt nuclear reactors.

We also welcome and will encourage further innovation, research and development of effective alternative energy sources, particularly hydro-electric power generation on land and especially at sea.

PLANNING AND LICENSING

As already stated, we oppose building on greenbelt land. We do not oppose the re-utilisation of buildings or sites of existing buildings for residential purposes, whether they are industrial, commercial or agricultural buildings.

We would give residents greater control over building on their own land, subject to local planning approval.

As a matter of policy, we would oppose planning applications to build or convert buildings into non-indigenous cultural or religious centres.

Planning applications for large out-of-town developments would only be granted where there is a pressing need in the interests of the wider community.

The anomaly that currently exists in the VAT regimes on housing construction will be removed. Currently, building projects on brownfield developments are liable for VAT whereas new builds on greenfield sites carry no VAT, thereby encouraging developers to develop greenfield sites. We propose levying VAT on new developments and removing it from brownfield developments, thereby discouraging such intrusion onto greenfield sites.

Schools, hospitals and the criminal justice systems by their very nature exist to serve the community and the nation. They cannot be bought and sold or operated in a conventional business way merely for profit.

Thus PFI (private funded initiatives) and PPP (public private partnerships) are generally of highly questionable worth for the long-term social and economic viability of the nation.

As a matter of policy, we would oppose planning applications to build or convert buildings into non-indigenous cultural or religious centres

The concept that a consortium of banks, private institutions and developers should finance, for example, the construction of a hospital which the local NHS trust then must lease for the next 30 years, on highly restrictive terms, is morally wrong.

PFI's also have a detrimental impact on local government workers' jobs, pay and conditions of service. The British National Party will not enter into any further PFI's and will seek to renegotiate the contracts of existing initiatives with a view to lowering the burden of debt.

In general, we would leave it to the local community to decide the appropriate level and hours of licensing for pubs and clubs. All areas are different; what is appropriate for Belfast would not necessarily be appropriate for a small village.

We do not believe this is an area upon which central government should decide, so complete discretion should be devolved down to local government level.

We are opposed to the smoking ban in public houses as it takes away any freedom of choice. Landlords should be able to decide if they wish to run smoking or non-smoking establishments, so long as a mechanically ventilated room is provided specifically for smoking purposes in the event of its re-introduction.

REFUSE AND RECYCLING

There should be weekly waste collections, which must remain free. Charging will encourage illegal tipping, which will cost more in terms of health problems and clean-up expenses.

Those arrested for fly tipping will have their vehicles and/or equipment impounded. On conviction, these items will be sold to finance the clean up of areas damaged.

Recycling should best be carried out weekly at the same time as the normal rubbish clearance takes place. It is inevitably the case that if it is not clear and completely obvious to residents when recycling collections occur, they are less inclined to recycle.

Local council tips/recycling centres should be open more regular hours and less inclined to turn people away who wish to leave items, which also encourages fly tipping.

This situation can only be altered by using tax and regulation powers to stimulate demand for recycled materials rather than using the stick of charging for the removal of waste

Regional and national recycling businesses must be encouraged to recycle the materials collected. The current situation, where millions of tonnes of recyclable material, including plastics, circuit boards, steel and cardboard is shipped to China and India, makes a mockery of environmental concerns.

This situation can only be altered by using tax and regulation powers to stimulate demand for recycled materials rather than using the stick of charging for the removal of waste.

For example, every single glass and plastic bottle made in or imported to the UK should be sold with a returnable deposit, thereby turning every child in the country into an eager volunteer 'bottle recycling operative'.

We will enforce zero tolerance on litter. It is neither pleasant nor safe for residents and tourists alike to see many of our beautiful town centres and coastlines, parks and gardens blighted by litter. We will replace financial fines for those litter louts with community service orders to participate in street, coast and park clean up operations.



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