



By Email: Gillian.Belch@ictuni.org

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Owen Reidy

NIC-ICTU, Assistant General Secretary

Owen, a chara

Thank you for your recent correspondence. For clarity I have dealt with the specifics of each question as detailed below:

- Will your party fully support the concept and practice of power sharing as envisaged and outlined in the Good Friday Agreement?

Yes

- Should the UK leaving the EU as proposed by the UK government, will your party in the Assembly support the transposition of progressive EU Directives concerning matters within the competency of the Executive/devolved Assembly, such as employments rights?

Yes

- Will your party support the mitigations around welfare 'reform', in particular on matters such as the Bedroom Tax, and do you agree that given the particular circumstances that arise in Northern Ireland, any such welfare 'reform' must be implemented differently?

Yes

- Will you support the creation of decent and quality jobs through the development and implementation of an industrial strategy for Northern Ireland taking into account the interests and concerns of the trade union movement and many employers and placing the creation of decent and quality jobs with the skills agenda at the heart of such a strategy?

Yes

- Will your party support the work of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive and promote the building of more social housing using the criteria of objective need?

Yes

- Will your party support the full expression of a shared society by supporting the implementation of a Bill of Rights in Northern Ireland?

Yes

More generally as you will be aware the circumstances surrounding this election are unlike any that we have faced before. Sinn Féin did not expect to be going back to the public nine months after the last election. This election has been called as a result of extraordinary circumstances. The DUP's arrogance and contempt in regard to the Renewable Heat Initiative has created a crisis of public confidence in the political institutions.

Sinn Féin's focus is to ensure that we get institutions that work for the benefit of everyone. That means ensuring that equality, integrity, and respect are at the heart of government as we seek to move forward.

The Sinn Féin Assembly Manifesto is now accessible at: https://www.sinnfein.ie/files/2017/MANIFESTO_ENGLISH.pdf I would encourage you to share this through your networks and with your membership. I look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues as we seek to embed rights protections for all through a Bill of Rights, challenge Tory austerity and shape a politics that is underpinned and shaped by a commitment to rights and equality for all.

Is mise le meas

Michelle O'Neill

Sinn Féin