

**CHAPTER 1 SUMMARY - NUMBER OF SEATS IN THE NI ASSEMBLY****Question 1****What should the future size of the Northern Ireland Assembly be?**

THE LINK WITH WESTMINSTER CONSTITUENCIES DOES NOT NEED TO REMAIN DIFFERENT ELECTIONS DIFFERENT VOTING SYSTEMS. ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS SHOULD BE BASED ON COUNTY BOUNDARIES 5 MLA PER COUNTY 5 MLA FOR BELFAST 4 MLA FOR STRANRAER TOTAL 39 MLA. MORE THAN ENOUGH FOR 1.8M PEOPLE 46 TH POS POSS. AS FOR Smaller PARTYS LOSING OUT IF THESE DOMINATE AND WHAT THE VOTERS WANT THEY WILL VOTE FOR THEM IF NOT THEY WONT GOT VOTES UNDER ANY SYSTEM.

Westminster and move to 5-year terms on a permanent basis. It could be argued that 5-year terms allow incumbent administrations time to deliver more. Others may feel that 4-year terms are adequate. The Government does not believe that there needs to be uniformity across the Parliaments and Assemblies of the UK on this matter. We seek views on what would be the best approach for the Northern Ireland Assembly.

#### **CHAPTER 2 SUMMARY – LENGTH OF ASSEMBLY TERMS**

##### **Question 2**

**Do you believe that there should be combination of Parliamentary and Assembly elections in 2015 or should these be decoupled?**

##### **Question 3**

**Do you think the term of the current Northern Ireland Assembly should be extended from 2015 to 2016?**

##### **Question 4**

**Should the Northern Ireland Assembly move to a fixed 5-year term permanently?**

POLITICAL - ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS SHOULD NOT BE DECOUPLED  
AS IT IS OUR BEST WAY OF GETTING MORE VOTES OUT &  
IT WOULD SAVE SOME MONEY THE CURRENT ASSEMBLY  
SHOULD NOT BE EXTENDED - THE LINK WITH PARLIAMENTARY  
ELECTIONS RETAINED FOR THE FUTURE THE ASSEMBLY SHOULD  
THEFORE MOVE TO A FIXED 5-YR TERM PERMANENTLY  
AS 45% OF OUR MLAs ARE TOTALLY USELESS &  
IN EFT IT WOULD MAKE NO DIFFERENCE WHAT SO EVER

so, how can this system best be achieved?

THIS IS A POINTLESS QUESTION OF COURSE THE ABSENCE  
WOULD OPERATE BETTER + MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH AN  
OPPOSITION. NOTHING CONCENTRATES A M.LA'S MIND  
MORE THAN LOSING THEIR SEAT + THAT IS WHY  
DUP / S/F WILL NEVER AGREE TO ANYTHING THAT  
SMELLS OF DEMOCRACY. THEY HAVE STORMONT  
TIED UP TIGHTLY + THE ONLY WAY TO CHANGE IT  
IS TO DEMOLISH D'MONST + START AGAIN.  
THE PEOPLE VOTE & THE PARTY WITH THE MOST SEATS  
IS ELECTED TO RULE FOR 5 yrs. IT'S COALITION DEMOCRACY

SIMPLIES

## MLAs and Peers

3.8 We also seek views on whether any legislation to ban 'double-jobbing' between MPs and MLAs should also extend to MLAs and members of the House of Lords. Many, if not all, of the above considerations relating to holding both MP and MLA offices will also apply.

### CHAPTER 3 SUMMARY – MULTIPLE MANDATES

#### Question 5

**Do you believe that representatives should be prohibited from holding the offices of MP and MLA at the same time?**

#### Question 6

**Should MLAs also be prohibited from being members of the House of Lords?**

#### Question 7

**Is it better to use primary legislation to ban such practices outright at the earliest opportunity or to take a power to do so at a later date to allow space for agreement to be reached?**

REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD BE PROHIBITED FROM HOLDING OFFICE OF MP / MLA'S & COUNCILLORS. AT THE SAME TIME IF THE ASSEMBLY IS REDUCED (E.G. 39 MLAS) THEN THIS BY TURN MEANS THEY COULD ONLY DO ONE JOB CORRECTLY HOPEFULLY SAME GOES FOR PARLIAMENT & USING COUNCILS TO BROAD NEW TALENT IS BETTER THAN HOLDING OUT JOB TO TIME SLOTS. THE HOUSE OF LORDS SHOULD NOT ADOPTED FULL STOP. IT'S UNDEMOCRATIC. YOU MUST USE LEGISLATION TO BAN SUCH PRACTICES IMMEDIATELY IF YOU ARE GOING TO WAIT FOR THAT BUNCH OF USELESS MLAS TO REACH AGREEMENT YOU WILL BE WAITING FOR EVER  
TURKEYS DONT VOTE FOR CHRISTMAS.