

Summer 2014
Issue 27



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76,000 TUV Voters and Counting...



TUV saw a surge of support in the Local Government and European Elections held on 22nd May 2014.

TUV are now represented on the new 'super' councils in the following areas: Antrim and Newtownabbey, Mid and East Antrim, Causeway Coast and Glens, Belfast City, Lisburn and Castlereagh, and North Down and Ards.

This ensures that in these areas there will be a strong TUV presence holding the other parties to account, and opposing republicanism and not enabling it.

Jim Allister polled 76,000 votes in the European election and sent a powerful message to Sinn Fein/DUP— watch your back.

TUV has never been stronger or more united. There is a lot of work to be done and we will relish representing unionism and taking the political fight to those enabling the republican agenda.

What can you do to help TUV succeed?

We need our members and supporters alike to get behind the party and our

new representatives, attend events and fundraisers and get the TUV message out there.

We are already witnessing the attempt to reintroduce the rejected Haass proposals which would have gave ever more concessions to republicans.

TUV will be the insurance policy to further sell outs.

TUV are ready to play our role in representing the unionist community, in Stormont or in local government.

Stormont Ensures 'Bonnet' Kelly Gets Off The Hook

The NI Assembly recently debated the suspension of Sinn Fein MLA Gerry Kelly after his obstruction of a PSNI Landrover.

Commenting, Jim Allister said:

"The Assembly debated a motion calling for Gerry Kelly to be suspended for five days after the Standards Commissioner found that he had breached the MLA Code of Conduct by clinging to the bonnet of a PSNI land rover at last year's Tour of the North parade.

"However, the debate was a sham because a Petition of Concern had been lodged which means that even if a majority of MLAs voted to exclude Kelly it would fall.

"Petitions of Concern are a perverse instrument which are unknown to anywhere in the democratic world.

"The use of one in this instance demonstrates that Sinn Fein don't just get special treatment from the PSNI – we all know would have happened a Loyalist if they had decided to obstruct police officers in

the course of their duties – but they also get it at Stormont.

Concluding, Jim Allister stated:

"Shame on those spineless SDLP MLAs – Pat Ramsey and Dolores Kelly – who have ridden to the rescue of Bonnet Kelly in order to frustrate the democratic will of the Assembly and shame on those Unionists who continue to operate this perverse system."

Poots Finally Flushed Out on Nursing Homes

"Yet Allister's one man opposition in Stormont has won him respect – even in unlikely quarters – and it would be no surprise to see him poll strongly. He's the one to watch."

Suzanne Breen
Journalist, Sunday Life

"Jim Allister's 75,806 first preference votes, in particular, is a direct message to Sinn Fein and the DUP that Stormont is not working."

Liam Clarke
Belfast Telegraph
29th May 2014

"The biggest challenge to the UUP is not the DUP, it is the TUV."

Alex Kane
Political Commentator
28th May 2014

Jim Allister MLA has tirelessly campaigned for the ban on new admissions to care homes to be lifted, and has highlighting that Minister Poots has the authority to do just that. Commenting, Jim Allister said:

"For months, if not years, the Health minister has been blaming the Trusts for unpopular proposals to close statutory residential homes. At the heart of the closure strategy lies the moratorium on new admissions, which ensures non-viability, thereby enabling a closure proposal.

"Minister Poots has been ducking and diving on who carries responsibility for this policy. I have long maintained that he has the power to issue a direction to the trusts to permit new admissions,

which would be the litmus test of whether he is actually wanting to save the homes, rather than paying lip service to their future. He has persistently sought to dodge the issue.

"Now, through Assembly Questions I have finally forced him to concede that indeed he does have the power I've long suggested, but is refusing to exercise it. Thus, leaving homes to haemorrhage out of existence.

"In his answer he had to admit this:-

'Under Article 4 of the Departments (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 and Section 6 of the Health and Social Care Reform Act (NI) 2009, directions may be given to HSC Trusts in relation to any functions undertaken by Trusts.

"So, it is now firmly established that the minister indeed has the relevant legal power to end the moratorium on new admissions, but, shamefully, is failing to exercise it. Thus assisting the haemorrhaging process. It is a nonsense for the minister to say there will be admission policies for homes where *"there is a strong case for continued residential care provision"*, when permitting admissions is key to establishing that strong case. By continuing to tie their hands behind their backs by blocking new admissions, the minister is denying them the opportunity to prove their viability and thereby is aiding their closure. It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that this is still his aim."

Parades Commission Ardoyne Decision Totally Irrational

Statement by TUV vice-chair Richard Cairns:

"Having had opportunity to study the Parades Commission determination on Ardoyne in detail it is obvious that it is totally irrational. This is chiefly illustrated by the fact that at no point in the determination did the Commission even attempt to address the argument that if it is right to allow the outward parade then on what rational basis can the homeward parade be denied. Is offence really caused by a parade's direction of travel?

"Additionally, the Parades Commission has a legal duty is to consider each application on its own merits, and to do so objectively. It is clear, however, that its consideration was overwhelmed by its focus on

the 2013 template. Thereby, the PC fettered its discretion and erred not just in allowing this to become the focus of its deliberations, but compounded its error by indulging in establishing new hurdles for the future. Any presumption in favour of exercising the right of freedom of assembly has been hopelessly eclipsed by the politicking of the commission.

"Rather than taking the reasonable course of encouraging the progress made in 2013/14, the commission eagerly dismissed it and mounted fresh demands, well outside its terms of reference – even to the point of demanding that the Orange Order abandon its traditions (para 30) and taking upon itself the overtly political function of pontificating on the need for a wider and

structured process to deal not just with parades but also the past. The Parades Commission is not a legislator, nor a policy maker, on parades, but an administrator. These comments are indicating a Commission that has lost the run of itself and commenting on matters well beyond its remit.

"It is also striking that the Commission utterly failed to set out any sufficient and reasoned evaluation of the evidence it received. Thereby it failed to adequately discharge its quasi judicial function and while seeking to make much of the cost of the policing of the parade and subsequent protests, the Commission makes no acknowledgement of the fact that its 2013 determination led to much of that cost."

McCausland Must Go

Jim Allister MLA has called on the DSD Minister, Nelson McCausland, to do the honourable thing and resign:

“The determined efforts which Mr McCausland and his Special Adviser made to cover up that the meeting was with Turkingtons was compelling evidence in itself that his misleading of the committee was deliberate and not ‘inadvertent’ as he eventually claimed. Even that acknowledgement only came when he had run out

of road in terms of his persistent attempts to claim the meeting was in fact with the Glass and Glazing Federation. Altering minutes, repudiating advice from everyone else at the meeting and changing Assembly Answers, all point to a determined course of action to lay a false trail.

“In any credible democracy a minister found guilty of deliberately misleading his scrutiny committee would be packing his bags. But, this

is Stormont, where anything goes. So, no doubt, the minister and his party will seek to brazen it out. The issue here is not whether NIHE was saved money. The issue is why the minister felt it necessary to pretend he had met someone other than a DUP supporting company in the events leading to contract changes.

“The minister’s credibility, like his evidence, is shot through. He should go.”



Cllr Timothy Gaston (top), Cllr Stewart McDonald (Middle) and Jim Allister MLA, after TUV romped home in Bannside.

TUV Challenge Terror Award to School Children

Cllr Andrew Girvin (Castlereagh) has challenged the awarding of ‘Bobby Sands Gaeltacht Scholarships’ to children in a West Belfast School:

“Bobby Sands was a terrorist who was convicted of a number of serious offenses including possession of weapons and involvement in a gun battle with police officers after he and other IRA men left the scene of a bombing.

“He is not a role model which any young person

should be aspiring to.

“I am not at all surprised that Sinn Fein would seek to lionize Sands. They have never made any secret of the fact that they are linked to terror and bloodshed.

“However, the fact that joint First Minister McGuinness (as he is described in the Republican News report) made the award and that he was accompanied by Junior Minister Jennifer McCann raises serious questions for OFMDFM – a department supposedly committed to

“promoting equality”.

“The school also needs to explain why they believed it was acceptable for pupils to receive such an award. “It is totally unacceptable that children should grow up in Northern Ireland believing that men of violence should be emulated.

“I will be raising this issue with the Children’s Commissioner, the Belfast Education and Library Board and OFMDFM”.



Cllr Jolene Bunting after becoming the first ever TUV representative on Belfast City Council.

TUV Oppose Taxpayers Money Building a Mosque

The deputy First Minister, Martin McGuinness, made the following comment that needs urgent clarification by his co-equal First Minister, Peter Robinson:

“The First Minister is on the public record as saying that he believes that it would be appropriate, and I agree with him that, if necessary, public funds could be used to provide assistance with regard to the construction of a mosque in Belfast.”

Commenting on this, Jim

Allister said:

“Whatever flap Stormont may have got itself into over comments about the Muslim community, there can be no justification for the novel departure of taxpayers money being used to construct a mosque. Indeed it would be of questionable legality. Any religion that requires a place of worship must pay for it itself. It is no function of the state to sponsor or fund any religious sect.

Concluding, Jim Allister said:

“I am therefore fundamentally proposed to any suggestion that a mosque should be built in Belfast with public money. I am calling on the First Minister to urgently clarify his position. If McGuinness was distorting the OFMDFM position, then, the First Minister needs to clear this up quickly.”



Jim Allister MLA giving the thumbs up after polling 76,000 first preferences votes in the European Election.

Murder Should Always be a Police Matter

Responding to comments by outgoing Chief Constable Matt Baggott TUV Comber councillor and former UDR soldier Stephen Cooper said:

“Regarding Troubles-related murders as some sort of special category of murder is one of the chief flaws of the so-called peace process. There is no difference between a murder committed before 1998 and one committed last week. Both are equally heinous. Both are morally and ethically wrong. Both leave grieving families and loved ones. Both deserve to be investigated by the police and those responsible brought to justice before the courts.

“The Belfast Agreement with its early release

scheme allowed terrorists to claim that they were different from others who served time due to the special treatment which they received. That was wrong. It’s equally wrong for the outgoing Chief Constable to suggest that the PSNI should stop any efforts to bring terrorists who never served a day in jail before the courts.

“Convictions such as the one for the murder of Constable Proctor prove that terrorists can be brought to justice even many years after the event. The relief of Constable Proctor’s family following the guilty verdict demonstrated that the vast majority of victims still long for a day in court and a time when they will see those who

killed and maimed behind bars.

“While the Chief Constable claims that he doesn’t want to see the needs of justice or victims taken away it is obvious that when you remove some crimes from the ambit of the PSNI they are being treated differently.

“The Haass process, which is commended by Mr Baggott, has the potential to subvert the entire concept of justice in Northern Ireland and has already been rejected by most victims.

“Those who continue discussing Dr Haass’s proposals need to be honest with people and admit that what the

outgoing Chief Constable is suggesting amounts to supporting the Haass proposals.

“The simple truth which needs to be faced up to by the police and the political establishment is that if you cannot investigate bombings and shootings without negative impacting upon the political process then there is something fundamentally rotten at the heart of that political process.

“Murder, where it was committed in 1994 or 2014, should always be investigated by the police with all evidential avenues exhausted.”

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Stormont Dragging it’s feet on Union Flag

Commenting on the Stormont Union flag issue, Jim Allister said:

“I was amazed to discover a notice on the Assembly website this morning informing the public that the Assembly Commission is *“seeking to secure the services of an experienced individual and/or organisation(s) to support an Equality Impact Assessment on the Flying of the Union Flag from Parliament Buildings.*”

“This contract is expected to commence in July 2014 and last until March 2015.”

“The issue of flying the Union Flag at Stormont on a daily basis – as is the norm at Westminster and the Welsh Assembly and was also the policy at Holyrood until the SNP came to power at which point they enforced a designated days – has been something TUV has been campaigning about for a considerable period of time.

“I am disappointed to say the least that work on Equality Impact Assessment on this issue will not even commence until July and will last well into next year.

“Even by Stormont standards this is exceptional feet dragging! Remember a deal has been promised on this issue since the centenary of the Covenant in September 2012 – when the failure of Stormont to display the National Flag during the huge Orange demonstration angered many Unionists.

“Unionists on the Commission need to explain why they agreed to such an inordinate delay on an issue which is of considerable interest to the public.”

Dates for your diary

Duck Race & BBQ

Saturday 23rd August,
12.30pm—Burnside Orange Hall, Antrim