



Campaign Watch

We're proud of the positive campaign the Conservatives and Unionists have fought for this general election. Unfortunately, some of our opponents have not been so positive, and have made several claims about us that aren't true. We want to put the record straight.

Our parties will work together, as Conservatives and Unionists, to **PROMOTE** Northern Ireland's interests and **ENSURE** that we are at the heart of the Union.

We will **GROW** the size of the private sector in NI to **CREATE** new jobs and investment.

We will continue to fund Northern Ireland according to its needs, and will **TACKLE** the deficit while protecting the essential frontline public services that we all rely on. Northern Ireland will not be singled out over and above any other part of the UK. We are all in this together.

We will **PROTECT** pensions and the Pension Credit.

We will **SUPPORT** Sure Start.

We will **PROTECT** free TV licenses for over 75s and free eye tests for over 60s, and **KEEP** free prescriptions for all.

We will **BACK** the PSNI by ensuring they have the funding to deliver effective law and order to the people of Northern Ireland.

We will **KEEP** the winter fuel allowance.

We will **INCREASE** spending on the NHS at Westminster and **CHALLENGE** the DUP Finance Minister at Stormont to do the same.

We will **SUPPORT** free bus passes for pensioners and disabled people.

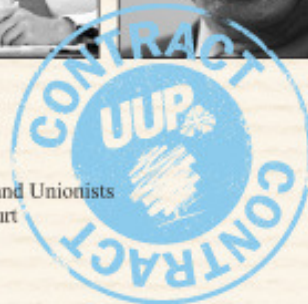
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A contract between the Conservatives and Unionists and you



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We go into the general election on 6 May with trust in politics and politicians at an all-time low. And we can understand why: the years of broken promises, the expenses scandal, the feeling that politicians have become too remote from the people – they've all taken their toll.

That's why we're writing to you now.

For too long, you've been lied to by politicians saying they can sort out all your problems. But it doesn't work like that. Real change is not just about what the government does. Real change only comes when we understand that we are all in this together; that we all have a responsibility to help make our country better. That's why we're sending you this document. It sets out our side of the bargain: the things we want to do to change the UK. But it also makes clear that we cannot do it on our own. We will only get our economy moving, mend our broken society and reform our rotten political system if we all get involved, take responsibility, and work together.

So this is our contract with you. We want you to read it and – if we win the election – use it to hold us to account. If we don't deliver our side of the bargain, vote us out in five years' time.

David Cameron *Reg Empey*

David Cameron
Leader of the
Conservative Party

Sir Reg Empey
Leader of the
UUP

We will change politics

Our politics needs to change.

Conservatives and Unionists want to end Northern Ireland's semi-detached political status and bring us back into the mainstream of British politics. Northern Ireland should be at the heart of the Union. Politicians must be made more accountable.

If you elect a Conservative and Unionist government on 6 May, we will:

1. **Put Northern Ireland at the heart of the Union**, by bringing us back into the mainstream of British politics and giving you real influence at Westminster.
2. **End the scandal of double jobbing at Stormont and Westminster**, reduce the number of MPs by 10 per cent, and cut the subsidies and perks for politicians.
3. **Give you the right to sack your MP**, so you don't have to wait for an election to get rid of politicians who are guilty of misconduct.
4. **Cut ministers' pay by five per cent** and freeze it for five years.
5. **Make central government transparent**, publishing every item of government spending over £25,000 and all government contracts; and push for similar transparency in wider public sector spending in Northern Ireland.

We will change the economy

Gordon Brown's economic incompetence has doubled the national debt, given us record youth unemployment, and widened the gap between rich and poor.

Unemployment is still rising, and this year the amount we spend on debt interest will be more than double the total public sector expenditure in Northern Ireland. We need to get our economy moving.

If you elect a Conservative and Unionist government on 6 May, we will:

1. **Cut wasteful central government spending** so we can stop Labour's jobs tax, which would kill the recovery.
2. **Act now on the national debt**, so we can keep mortgage rates lower for longer.
3. **Look at turning Northern Ireland into an economic enterprise zone**, producing a government paper examining the mechanism for changing the corporation tax rate in Northern Ireland, in order to attract significant new investment.

4. **Reduce emissions and build a greener economy**, with new jobs in green industries.
5. **Get the UK working by giving unemployed people support to get work**, including apprenticeships and training courses, and cutting benefits for those who refuse work.
6. **Control immigration**, reducing it to the levels of the 1990s – meaning tens of thousands a year, instead of the hundreds of thousands a year under Labour.

We will change society

We face big social problems in this country: family breakdown, educational under-achievement, crime and deep poverty.

Labour's big government has failed; we will help build a Big Society where everyone plays their part in mending our broken society.

If you elect a Conservative and Unionist government on 6 May, we will:

1. **Back the values of our NHS by increasing spending on health at Westminster every year**, and challenging the DUP Finance Minister at Stormont to do the same so that more goes to nurses and doctors on the frontline.
2. **Support families**, by giving married couples and civil partners a tax break and giving more people the right to request flexible working.
3. **Build on excellence in Northern Ireland's schools**, by resisting attempts by Sinn Fein to destroy our education system and seeking to ensure excellence, diversity and choice for all.
4. **Increase the basic state pension**, by re-linking it to earnings, and protect the winter fuel allowance, free TV licences, free bus travel and other key benefits for older people.
5. **Fight back against crime**, honour existing funding commitments, guarantee PSNI operational independence and work with Assembly colleagues to secure effective law and order for the entire community in Northern Ireland.
6. **Create National Citizen Service for 16 year olds**, to help bring the UK together.
7. **Dedicate ourselves to building a better, fairer future for all**, rule out Recognition Payments and costly and open ended inquiries into the past, and ensure Northern Ireland is incorporated into a UK Bill of Rights.

