

COUNCIL OF IRELAND

ALLIANCE PARTY PROPOSALS.

1. The Council of Ireland should consist of 14 Members - 7 from the N.I. Executive and 7 from the Government of the Republic.
2. We have no objection to a second tier inter-parliamentary advisory body provided that such body is equally representative of the Dail and The Assembly. We suggest 20 members from each legislative body elected by R.R.
3. The Council should have its own small but high powered secretariate under a Secretary General.
4. The Council should meet alternatively in Belfast and Dublin.
5. The functions of the Council should be divided into 2 groups:-
 - (a) Advisory functions on which the Council makes recommendations to the Dail and Northern Ireland Assembly which recommendations if approved by the 2 legislative bodies are then implemented by the legislative bodies.
 - (b) Functions over which the Council would itself have control.
6. The Council must have the inherent capacity to increase its functions both advisory and control by agreement between the Dail and the N.I. Assembly/Westminster. We foresee no difficulties in regard to functions over which the Assembly has power to legislate. Where, however, the functions are "excepted" or "reserved" subject to the terms of the Constitution Act the consent to transfer functions will be between Westminster and the Dail.
7. The immediate advisory functions which should be transferred to the Council are :-

- (a) Security and policing with an immediate brief to draw up proposals for a Common Law Enforcement Area.
 - (b) Regional and physical development.
 - (c) Agricultural development and fishing
 - (d) Transport.
 - (e) Power.
 - (f) Matters relating to common E.E.C. Policy.
8. The only functions over which the Council would itself have control which should be transferred immediately are :-
- (a) Tourist promotion.
 - (b) Existing joint inter-Government schemes.
 - (c) Livestock, horticultural and agriculture import regulations ~~and~~ for health and hygiene.
9. The initial financing of the Council which would largely be payment of secretariate and tourist promotion expenditure should be paid for by direct subvention from Dail and the Assembly on a per capita basis - The Council should then produce a scheme for its own financing for consideration of both legislative bodies.
10. All recommendations of the Council must be unanimous.
11. Agreements on transfer of powers and functions should be majority decisions of legislative assemblies involved.

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2. We have no objection to a second tier inter-parliamentary advisory body provided that such body is equally representative of the Dail and The Assembly. We suggest 20 members from each legislative body elected by R.R.
3. The Council should have its own small but high powered secretariat under a Secretary General. *This secretariat would have power to bring forward papers & projects for discussion by the Council.*
4. The Council should meet alternatively in Belfast and Dublin.
5. The functions of the Council should be divided into 2 groups:-
 - (a) Advisory functions on which the Council makes recommendations to the Dail and Northern Ireland Assembly which recommendations if approved by the 2 legislative bodies are then implemented by the legislative bodies.
 - (b) Functions over which the Council would itself have control.
6. *If there is agreement between the Dail & the N.I. Assembly*
~~The Council must have the inherent capacity to increase its functions~~
~~Westminster additional functions both advisory & executive~~
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can be transferred to the Council.
 We foresee no difficulties in regard to functions over which the Assembly has power to legislate. Where, however, the functions are "excepted" or "reserved", subject to the terms of the Constitution Act, the consent to transfer functions will be between Westminster and the Dail.
7. The immediate advisory functions which should be ^{given} ~~transferred~~ to the Council are :-

- (a) Security ~~and policing~~ with an immediate brief to draw up proposals for a Common Law Enforcement Area.
 - (b) Regional and physical development.
 - (c) Agricultural development and fishing
 - (d) Transport.
 - (e) Power.
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