

ELECTION FORUM : THE ALLIANCE PARTY

TXN: MONDAY 10TH MAY 1993 : 1735-1745 : BBC-1 NI

REH/REC: MONDAY 10TH MAY 1993 : STUDIO B/BETA/ASTON/ARTFILE

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SCHEDULE

0930-1030 Line-Up
1030-1130 REH/REC
1735-1740 TXN

TAKING PART

SEAMUS McKEE
DR JOHN ALDERDICE [Arriving BH 1015]

/S/B STUDIO/BETA /

RUN BETA [TITLES] /

BETA[TITLES] DUR:00'16" /

CUE IN: MUSIC.....

CUE OUT:.....MUSIC.

SEAMUS IV CAM 1 MCU /

SEAMUS IV

Good evening. Welcome to the third in our series of Election Forums in which the main political parties contesting the local government elections here set out their policies and are questioned about them.

Tonight its the turn of the Alliance Party. Their representative is Dr John Alderdice.

CAM /

In normal circumstances a district Council Election would be about the environment, play facilities for kids, better public transport, and so on.

(2)

But this election comes at a time when health, education, and the major public services are being savaged by the Government. The havoc is on a scale that is just beginning to be recognised.

That's why last week the people of England and Wales finally began to use their votes to say, "Enough Is Enough".

Alliance has been using the Councils here as a platform for protest against water privatisation and the health cuts. In the new Council term we want to move the process on, to persuade councils to WORK TOGETHER IN PARTNERSHIP with the business, professional, academic and voluntary sectors, to produce agreed alternatives which challenge this shambolic government.

This kind of all-inclusive approach, bringing people together, has been missing from politics here.

For example, one half of the population has been largely left out - women. Alliance has begun to rectify this. One third of ALL Alliance candidates in this election are women. No other party is remotely close to this.

And what about young people? While other parties are dominated by ideas, and personalities which look to the past, Alliance gets its strength and vigour from our commitment to a future together. Not just a future for young people.

We want to enable other groups, particularly the elderly and the disabled, to play their part in the community too, because we believe in WORKING TOGETHER IN PARTNERSHIP.

That's what's missing from so many District Councils. But you know, even in some of the worst, a couple more Alliance seats could make power-sharing amongst the constitutional parties, almost inevitable. Just think of the difference that would make.

In the past the Unionists and the DUP developed their JOINT STRATEGY.

But the Anglo-Irish Agreement is still there, and it will be, until we get back round the table and negotiate an alternative. Their joint strategy was a failure which just deepened community division.

Now the SDLP and Sinn Fein have told us they are developing a JOINT STRATEGY. Already it has worsened the distrust.

Alliance stands for a different JOINT STRATEGY. We want to hear less talk of the "Joint Unionist Family," and a "Pan Nationalist Front" and more about partnership and shared responsibility ACROSS THE COMMUNITY DIVIDE.

Think about it - no matter

how many people vote Unionist, it won't solve the problem.

No matter how many people vote nationalist, it won't bring cross-community partnership any closer. But a vote for Alliance sends a clear message. It says you believe the constitutional parties in the Councils, and in new Political Talks, should be, WORKING TOGETHER IN PARTNERSHIP - now surely that is the kind of JOINT POLITICAL STRATEGY we should all be trying to develop.

LIVE TWO WAY SEAMUS MCKEE/ALDERDICE AS DIRECTED

SEAMUS IV CAM 1

/ SEAMUS IV

Tomorrow night on Election Forum

CAM 2 W/S + 1/4" TAPE

/ its the turn of Sinn Fein, so for now Good Evening.

CAPTION + 1/4" TAPE

CUE IN: MUSIC.....

CUE OUT:MUSIC.

DUR: 5"

WORKING TOGETHER IN PARTNERSHIP

In normal circumstances a District Council Election would be about, the environment, play facilities for kids, better public transport, and so on. But this election comes at a time when health, education, and the major public services are being savaged by the government. The havoc is on a scale that is just beginning to be recognized. That's why last week the people of England and Wales finally began to use their votes to say, 'enough is enough'.

Alliance has been using the Councils here as a platform for protest against water privatisation and the health cuts. In the new Council term we want to move the process on, to persuade councils to **work together in partnership** with the business, professional, academic and voluntary sectors, to produce agreed alternatives which challenge this shambolic government.

This kind of all-inclusive approach, bringing people together, has been missing from politics here. For example, one half of the population has been largely left out - women. Alliance has begun to rectify this. One third of all Alliance candidates in this election are women. No other party is remotely close to this.

And what about young people. While other parties are dominated by ideas, and personalities which look to the past, Alliance gets its strength and vigour from our commitment to a future together. Not just a future for young people.

We want to enable other groups, particularly the elderly and the disabled, to play their part in the community too, because we believe in **working together in partnership**. That's what's missing from so many District Councils. But you know, even in some of the worst, a couple more Alliance seats could make power-sharing amongst the constitutional parties, almost inevitable. Just think of the difference that would make.

In the past the Unionists and the DUP developed their **joint strategy**. But the Anglo-Irish Agreement is still there, and it will be, until we get back round the table and negotiate an alternative. Their joint strategy was a failure which just deepened community division.

Now the SDLP and Sinn Fein have told us they are developing a **joint strategy**. Already it has worsened the distrust.

Alliance stands for a different **joint strategy**. We want to hear less talk of the 'joint unionist family', and a 'pan-nationalist front', and more about partnership and shared responsibility **across** the community divide.

Think about it - No matter how many people vote unionist, it won't solve the problem. No matter how many people vote nationalist, it won't bring cross-community partnership any closer. But a vote for Alliance sends a clear message. It says you believe the constitutional parties in the Councils, and in new Political Talks, should be **Working Together in Partnership** - now surely that is the kind of **joint political strategy** we should all be trying to develop.