



Centre for  
**ECONOMIC**  
EMPOWERMENT



# Economic Attitudes in Northern Ireland

**Centre for  
Economic Empowerment  
Research Report: five**

Ipsos MORI



# Economic Attitudes in Northern Ireland

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# FOREWORD

I am pleased to introduce the fifth research report produced by NICVA's Centre for Economic Empowerment (CEE). One of the aims of the CEE project is to initiate and inform discussion on the economy. This is an important role as the economy has long been side-lined by the focus on issues of national identity and constitutional status.

Many hoped that the 1998 Agreement would help resolve these disputes and free up space for economic issues to come to the fore. However 'orange and green' debates continue to dominate and consequently little is known about the public's views on the economy. In order to find out more about public attitudes in this area, NICVA commissioned Ipsos MORI to carry out a survey. The survey database is available on the NICVA website for analysis.

When it comes to the economy, this survey suggests that our political parties are lagging behind the electorate. Over half of people surveyed expressed an interest in economics. And when deciding what party to vote for, more people placed importance on the party's economic policy than its position on Northern Ireland's constitutional status. While there may be a difference between what people say and what they do, these findings indicate an encouraging level of public interest in the economy.

Public attitudes towards political parties are not so positive. Only one third of respondents feel they are well informed about the economic policies of local political parties. The proportion of people who agree that local parties have a good knowledge of economics is also just a third. Trust in political parties and the Northern Ireland Executive to promote good economic policies was also low.

This research highlights the need for political parties to give more attention to economic issues, to improve public confidence in their economic competence, and to more clearly communicate their position on economic policies. The media also have a role to play in improving the quality and quantity of local economic debate— for example by giving more prominence to economic topics and more robustly pressing political parties on their economic policies.

More emphasis on 'bread and butter' issues is a vital part of the move towards a more healthy political culture in Northern Ireland. The public appetite is there. It is time for others to respond.

**Seamus McAleavey**

*NICVA Chief Executive*

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## Executive Summary

### 1 Methodology

- 994 interviews were conducted with a representative sample of adults in Northern Ireland.

### 2 Interest in Politics and Economics

- Despite the low profile of economic issues in Northern Ireland, people were more likely to express an interest in economics (51%) than politics (40%).
- Interest in economics was particularly high among men (59% compared to 44% of women) and within socio economic groups ABC1 (66%) more than groups C2DE (37%).

### 3 Voting Decisions

- When deciding which political party to vote for, more respondents stated that the party's economic policy is important (68%) than its policy on whether Northern Ireland should be part of the UK or part of a United Ireland (56%).
- A party's economic policy was more important for social classes ABC1 (75%) compared to C2DE (62%), for Protestants (72%) compared to Catholics (63%), for males (71%) compared to females (65%), and for older age groups.

### 4 Knowledge of Economic Policy

- Despite the importance that people in Northern Ireland placed on economic policy, less than one third (31%) agreed that they are well informed about the economic policies of local political parties.
- Younger respondents were less likely to agree that they are well informed about the economic policies of local political parties (23% of 16-34 year olds compared with 36% of those aged 55+). Socio economic groups ABC1 were more likely than groups C2DE to agree that they are well informed in this respect (38% v 25%).
- One third (33%) of respondents agreed that local political parties have a good knowledge of economics and economic policy while 31% disagreed. Younger respondents were less likely than older respondents to agree but there was little difference within the other demographic categories.

### 5 The Left-Right Spectrum

- Only one quarter (25%) of respondents described their political views as either to the left (14%) or the right (11%). Two fifths (41%) of respondents described their political view as in the centre and one third (34%) didn't know how to categorise their views in these terms.
- A large proportion of respondents did not know where to place the political parties on the left-right spectrum. This ranged from 46% who did not know where to place both Sinn Fein and the SDLP, to 76% who did not know where to place NI21.
- The DUP was described by the highest proportion of people (34%) as a right wing party while Sinn Fein was described by the highest proportion of people (28%) as a left wing party.

### 6 Trust

- Respondents were most likely to trust voluntary and community groups (73%) and the business community (55%) to promote good economic policies. Respondents were least likely to trust the European Union and the Northern Ireland Executive (both 39%).
- Trust in local political parties to promote good economic policy was generally low. Overall, the SDLP was the most trusted party to promote good economic policy (36%). Of the five largest parties, Sinn Fein was the least trusted (27%).

### 7 Devolution

- Over half (54%) of all respondents agreed that devolution has had a positive impact on the Northern Ireland economy.
- Similar levels of people from Protestant and Catholic community backgrounds agreed that devolution has had a positive impact on the economy.
- 43% were favourable towards devolving more taxation powers to Northern Ireland and 25% are unfavourable.
- Catholics were more favourable towards tax devolution than Protestants (45% v 41%).

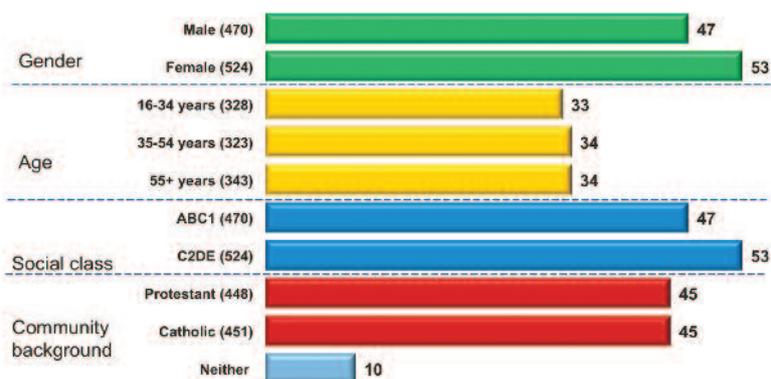
## 1. Methodology

Interviews were conducted with a representative sample of adults in Northern Ireland aged 16 plus years. Quotas were placed on age, gender, social class and region. Interviews were conducted face-to-face and in-home using Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI). 994 interviews were conducted in total and 59 sampling points were randomly selected across Northern Ireland. Fieldwork was completed from 28th October – 22nd November 2013.

The questionnaire was drafted by NICVA and finalised with the assistance of Ipsos MORI. A copy of the survey is appended to this report. Respondents were unaware of the identity of the commissioning organisation. The chart below displays the breakdown of the survey sample. The sample reflects the demographics of the Northern Ireland adult population.

As the survey is based upon a sample, care should be taken in extrapolating the findings to the population as a whole. As a general rule, a difference of three or more percentage points between males and females, and eight percentage points between Protestants and Catholics, can be accepted as statistically significant (that is, applicable to the wider population)<sup>1</sup>.

### Sample profile (%)



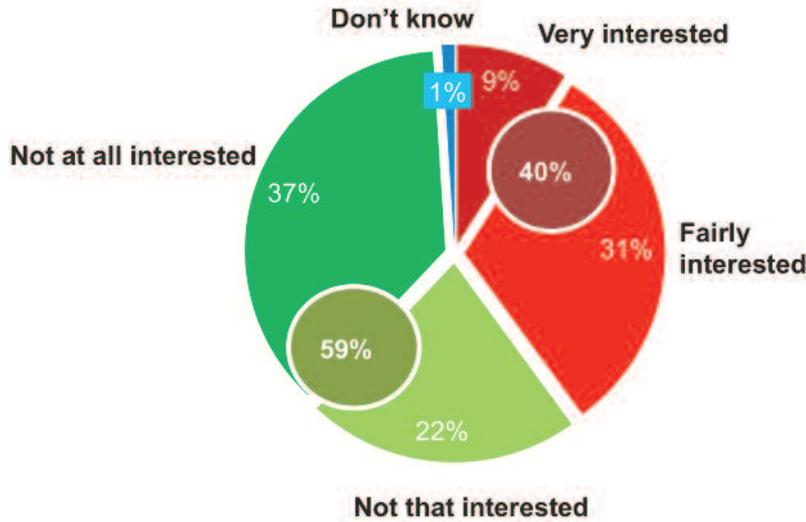
Base (in brackets) October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

<sup>1</sup> This is based on a 95% confidence interval. As the sample is quota-based rather than random tests of significance are only indicative.

## 2. Interest in Politics and Economics

Despite the high profile of politics in Northern Ireland, respondents did not express a high level of interest in the subject. Just four in ten (40%) of people claimed to be interested in politics. A majority (59%) said they are not interested.

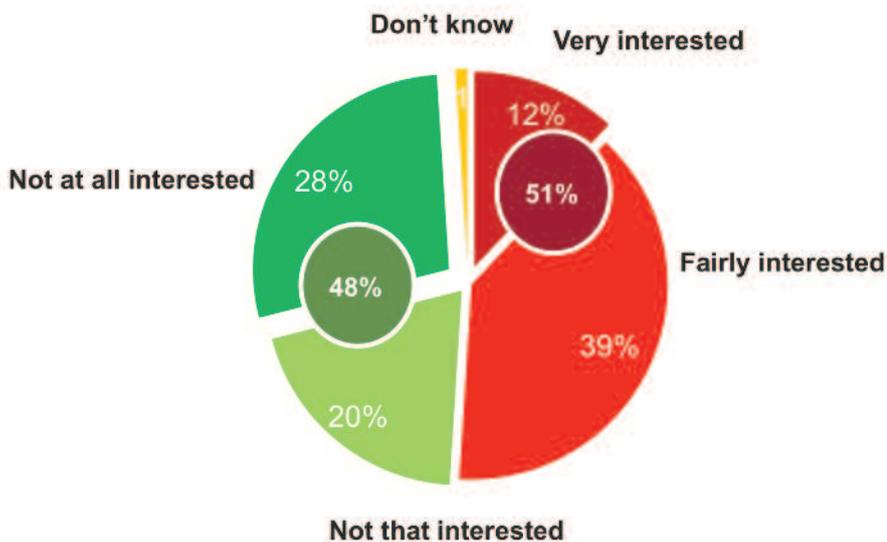
### To what extent are you interested in politics?



Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

Respondents were more likely to express an interest in economics than in politics. Approximately half (51%) of people reported being interested in economics, compared to 40% who are interested in politics. This is interesting given the relatively low media profile of economic issues in Northern Ireland.

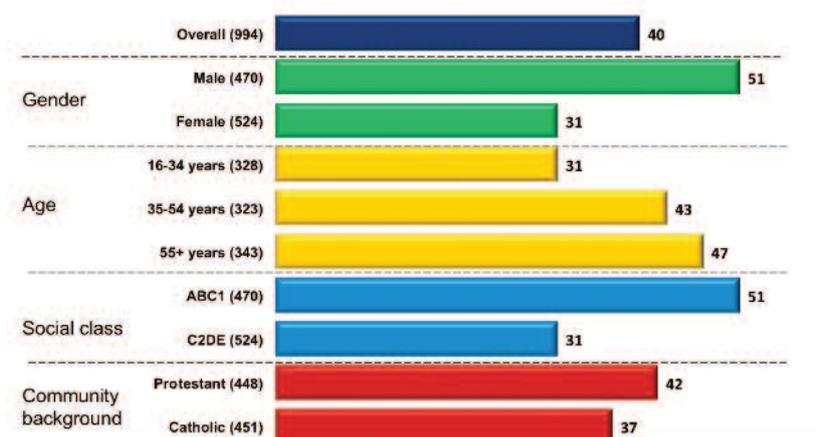
### To what extent are you interested in economics?



Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

There were some significant differences within the various demographic sub-groups. Men were significantly more likely to be interested in politics than women (51% versus 31% respectively). Younger people were less likely than older people to be interested in politics. Only 31% of people aged 16-34 say they are interested in politics. This compares with 43% of 35-54 year olds and 47% of those aged 55 and over. There was also a difference in terms of social class; just over half (51%) of ABC1s said they are interested compared to 31% of C2DEs.

### To what extent are you interested in politics?



Base (In brackets), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

There were a number of significant differences within the population. Males (59%) were more likely to report an interest in economics than females (44%). Socio-economic groups ABC1 were much more likely to say that they are interested in economics than the C2DE socio-economic groups (66% v 37%). The difference between Catholics and Protestants was not statistically significant.

### To what extent are you interested in economics?



Base (in brackets) October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

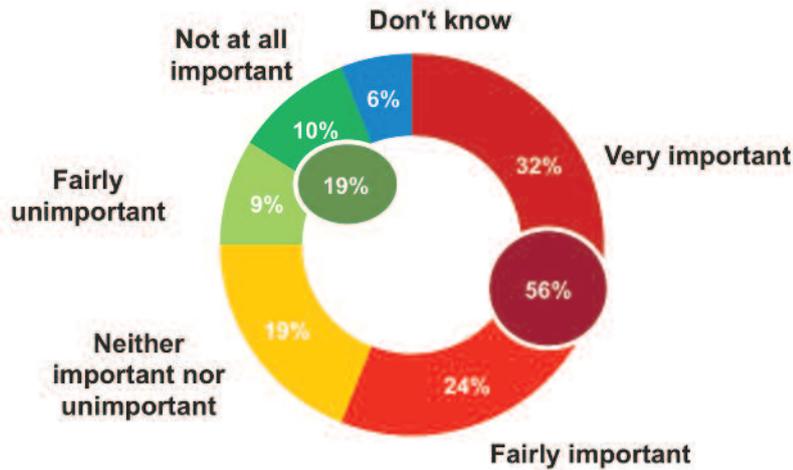
#### Key Points:

- Despite the relatively low profile of economic issues in Northern Ireland, people are more likely to express an interest in economics (51%) than politics (40%).
- Interest in economics is particularly high among men (59%) compared to women (44%), and among socio economic groups ABC1 (66%) compared to groups C2DE (37%).

### 3. Voting Decisions

When deciding which political party to vote for, the majority (56%) of respondents stated that the party's policy on whether Northern Ireland should be part of the UK or part of a United Ireland (in other words, the constitutional status of Northern Ireland) is important. 19% of respondents did not give an opinion on how important the party policy is on this issue and a further 19% stated that it is not important.

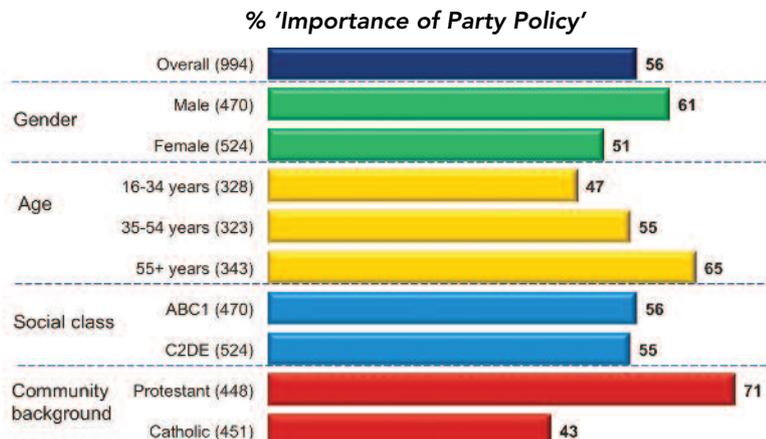
When deciding which political party to vote for, how important to you is the party's policy on whether Northern Ireland should be part of the UK or part of a United Ireland?



Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

A polarised picture emerges when examining the demographics. In terms of community background, Protestants (71%) were much more likely than Catholics (43%) to state that the party's policy on the constitutional status of Northern Ireland is important. Males (61% compared to 51% of females) and older people (65% of people aged 55+ years compared to 47% of people aged 16-34 years) are also more likely to place an importance on this issue.

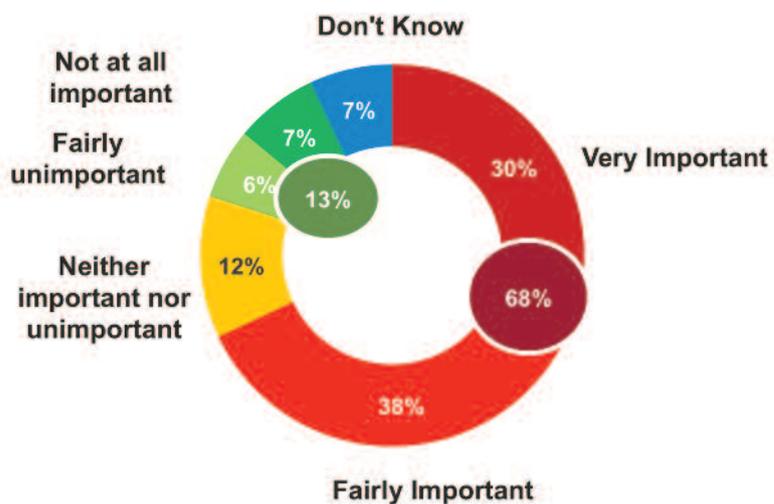
When deciding which political party to vote for, how important to you is the party's policy on whether Northern Ireland should be part of the UK or part of a United Ireland?



Base (in brackets) October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

When choosing which party to vote for, 68% of respondents said that economic policy is important. This is more than the 56% of people who stated that the party's position on whether Northern Ireland is part of the UK or a United Ireland is important.

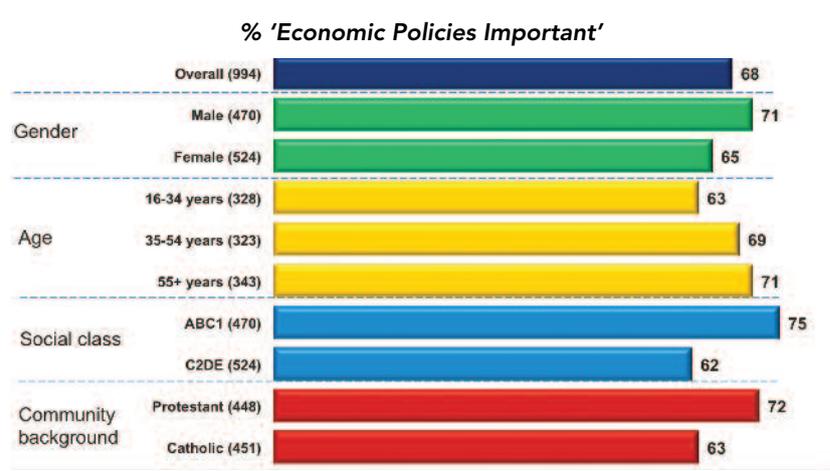
**When deciding which political party to vote for, how important to you is the party's economic policies?**



Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

When we examine the variation in demographic groupings we find that socio economic groups ABC1 (75%) placed more importance on economic policy than socio-economic groups C2DE (62%). Those from a Protestant community background (72%) placed more importance on economic policy than those from a Catholic (63%) background. Older groups attach more importance to economic policy than younger groups while more males (71%) than females (65%) stated that economic policy is important.

**When deciding which political party to vote for, how important to you is the party's economic policies?**



Base (in brackets) October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

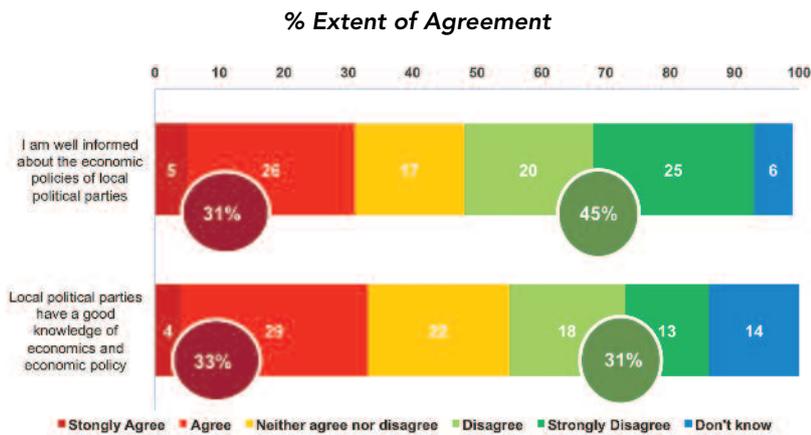
- Key Points:**
- When deciding which party to vote for, more respondents stated that the party's economic policy is important than its position on the constitutional status of Northern Ireland (68% v 56%).
  - The party's economic policy was more important for social classes ABC1 (75%) compared to C2DE (62%), for Protestants (72%) compared to Catholics (63%), for males (71%) compared to females (65%), and for older age groups.

### 4. Knowledge of Economic Policy

Despite the importance that respondents placed on economic policy, less than one third (31%) stated that they are personally well informed about the economic policies of local political parties. 45% disagreed that they are well informed and almost one fifth (17%) neither agreed nor disagreed.

One third (33%) of respondents agreed that local political parties have a good knowledge of economics and economic policy. 31% disagreed, over one fifth (22%) neither agreed nor disagreed, and 14% stated that they don't know if local political parties have a good knowledge of economics and economic policy.

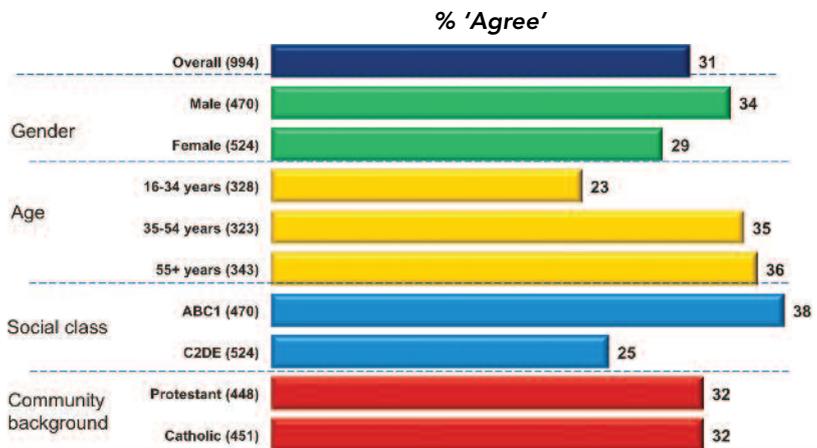
#### To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (%)



Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

Younger people (16-34 years) were less likely than older people to agree that they are well informed about the economic policies of local political parties. Those in the socio-economic groups ABC1 (38%) were more likely to agree they are well informed compared to those in socio-economic groups C2DE (25%).

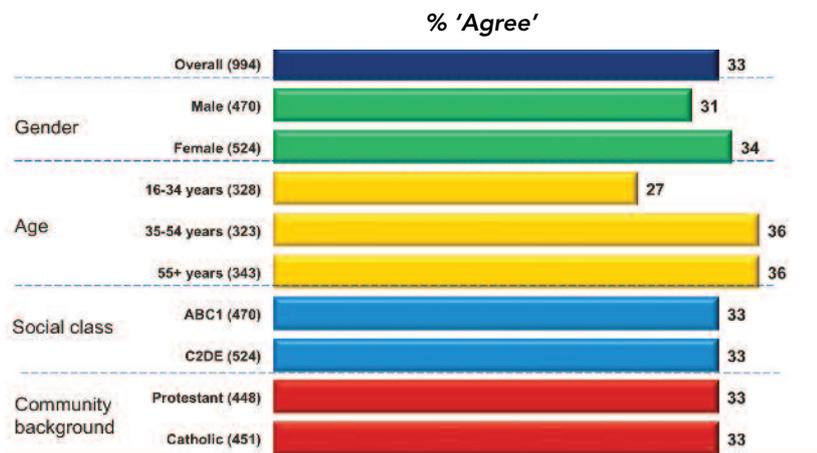
#### I am well informed about the economic policies of local political parties



Base (In brackets), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

One third (33%) of all respondents agreed that local political parties have a good knowledge of economics and economic policy. Those aged 16-34 (27%) were less likely to agree compared to the older age groups of 45-54 years and 65+ years (both 36%). There is no substantial difference between males and females, community backgrounds or socio-economic groups on this question.

**Local political parties have a good knowledge of economics and economic policy**



Base (In brackets), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

**Key Points:**

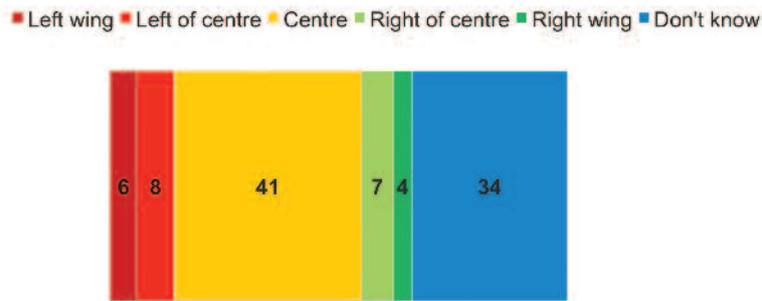
- Although 68% of respondents stated that economic policy is important when deciding which party to vote for, less than one third (31%) agreed that they are personally well informed about the economic policies of local political parties.
- Younger respondents were less likely to agree that they are well informed about the economic policies of local political parties. Socio economic groups ABC1 were more likely than groups C2DE to agree that they are well informed in this respect (38% v 25%).
- One third (33%) of respondents agreed that local political parties have a good knowledge of economics and economic policy. 31% disagreed.
- Younger respondents were less likely to agree that local political parties have a good knowledge of economics and economic policy but there was little difference within the other demographic categories.

## 5. The Left-Right Spectrum

### Personal Views

Only one quarter (25%) of respondents categorised their political views as either to the left (14%) or the right (11%). Two fifths (41%) described their views as in the centre and one third (34%) stated that they didn't know how they would describe their views in these terms.

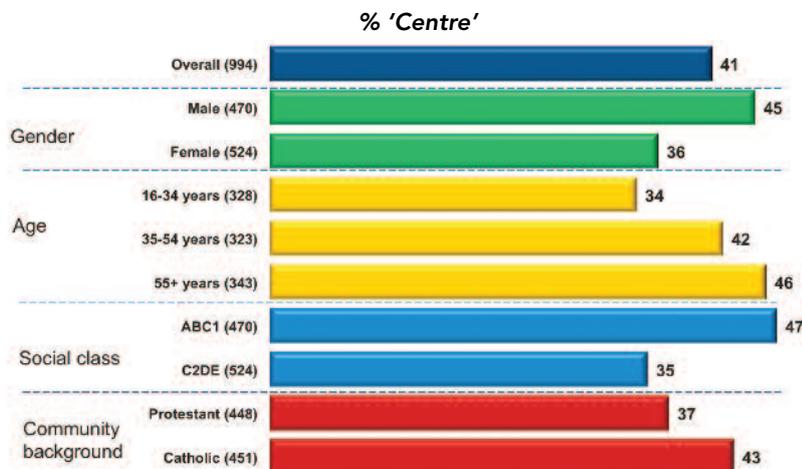
**Some people describe their political views as being left wing or right wing.  
How would you describe your own views, would you say you are left wing, left of centre, centre, right of centre or right wing?**



Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

More males (45%) than females (36%) described themselves as having a centre position on the Left-Right spectrum. Older people were more likely to describe themselves as having a centre view than younger people (46% of people aged 55+ years compared with 34% of 16-34 year olds). Socio-economic group ABC1 (47%) were more likely to describe their views as in the centre compared to C2DE (35%). The difference between Catholics and Protestants was not statistically significant.

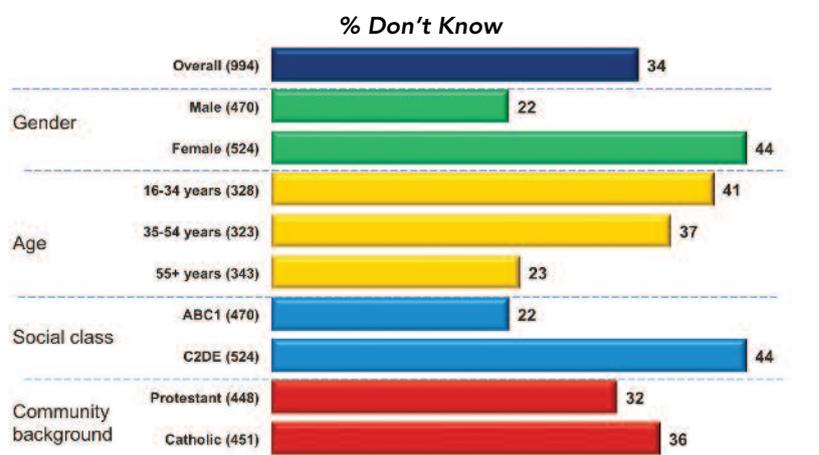
**Would you say you are left wing, left of centre, centre, right of centre or right wing?**



Base (In brackets), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

Substantially more females (44%) than males (22%) didn't know how to describe their political views in terms of the Left-Right spectrum. Compared to people aged 55 years and over (23%), those aged 16-34 (41%) and 35-54 (37%) were more likely to not know how to describe their political views in these terms.

**Would you say you are left wing, left of centre, centre, right of centre or right wing?**



Base (In brackets), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

**Political Parties**

A large number of people did not know where to place the political parties on the Left-Right spectrum. Even among the more established parties almost half of respondents did not know whether they are left, right or centre on economic issues.

Respondents were more likely to designate Sinn Fein as left wing (36%) than on the right or the centre. They were more likely to designate the DUP (34%), UUP (29%), TUV (27%) and UKIP (27%) as right wing. Alliance (38%), the SDLP (26%), the Green Party (21%) and NI21 (11%) were more likely to be described as in the centre on economic issues.

**On economic issues where would you place these political parties on the left-right spectrum?**

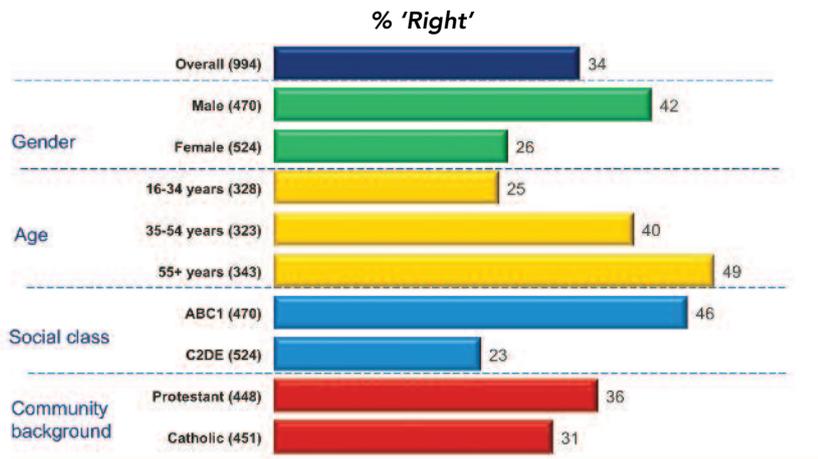
	Left	Centre	Right	Don't know
Sinn Fein	36%	9%	10%	46%
SDLP	22%	26%	7%	46%
Green	20%	21%	3%	57%
DUP	10%	10%	34%	46%
Alliance	9%	38%	7%	47%
UUP	8%	16%	29%	47%
TUV	7%	6%	27%	60%
UKIP	6%	8%	27%	60%
NI21	4%	11%	9%	76%

Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

### The DUP

Significantly more males (42%) than females (26%) described the DUP as right wing. Older people were more inclined to describe the party as right wing compared to the younger age groups. Social classes ABC1 were more likely than social classes C2DE to describe the DUP as right wing (46% v 23%).

## On economic issues where would you place the DUP on the left-right spectrum?

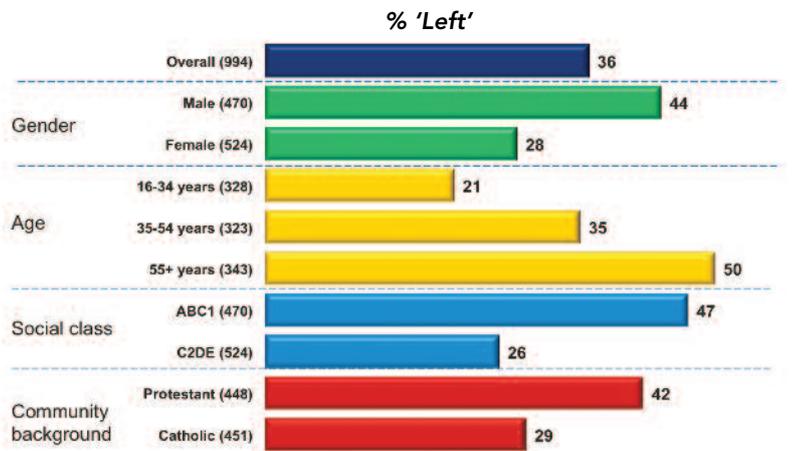


Base (In brackets), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

### Sinn Fein

More males (44%) than females (28%) designated Sinn Fein as being left wing. Half (50%) of those aged 55+ years described Sinn Fein as left-wing compared with 21% of people aged 16-24 years. Protestants (42%) were more likely than Catholics (29%) to regard Sinn Fein as left wing. Social classes ABC1 were more likely than social classes C2DE to categorise Sinn Fein as left wing (47% v 26%).

## On economic issues where would you place the Sinn Fein on the left-right spectrum?

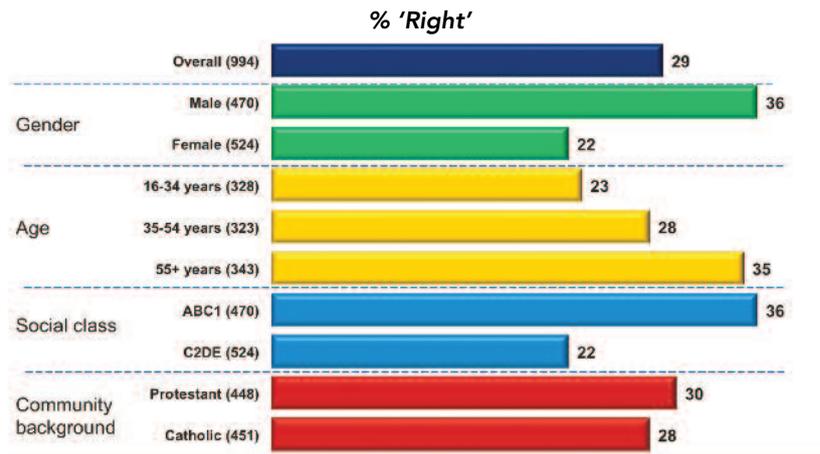


Base (In brackets), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

**The UUP**

Significantly more males (36%) categorised the UUP as right wing compared to females (22%). In addition, those in the older age groups tended to designate the UUP as right wing compared to the younger age groups, who were more likely to not know how to describe the economic policies of the UUP. Social classes ABC1 were more likely than social classes C2DE to describe the UUP as right wing (36% v 22%).

**On economic issues where would you place the UUP on the left-right spectrum?**

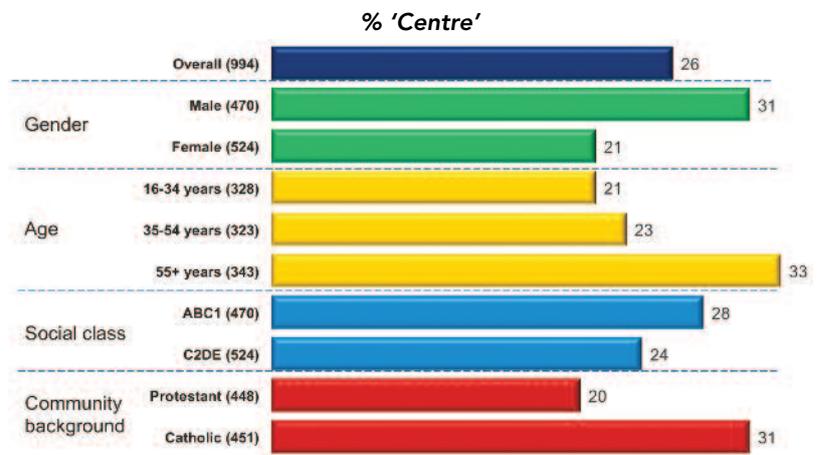


Base (In brackets), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

**The SDLP**

More males (31%) than females (21%) placed the SDLP in the centre of the Left-Right spectrum. Proportionally more of those in the oldest age group described the SDLP as in the centre, compared with younger age groups. With regard to community background, proportionally more Catholics (31%) than Protestants (20%) designated the SDLP as in the centre.

**On economic issues where would you place the SDLP on the left-right spectrum?**

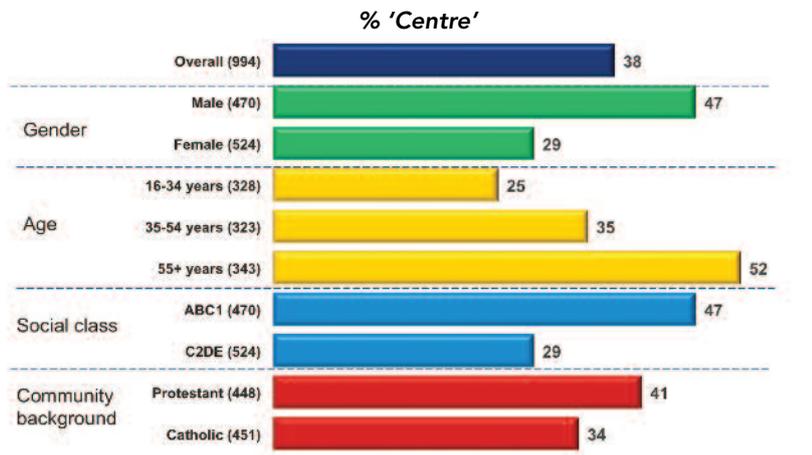


Base (In brackets), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

### The Alliance Party

More males (47%) than females (29%) designated the Alliance party's economic policies as in centre. Older respondents were more likely to describe the Alliance's economic policies as in the centre whereas those in the lower age groups (16-24 and 25-34) were more likely not to know (60% and 58% respectively).

### On economic issues where would you place the Alliance Party on the left-right spectrum?



Base (In brackets), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

#### Key Points:

- Only one quarter (25%) of respondents described their political views as either to the left (14%) or the right (11%).
- Two fifths (41%) of respondents described their political view as in the centre and one third (34%) didn't know how to categorise their views in these terms.
- For each political party at least half of respondents did not know if their economic policy was right, left or centre.
- The DUP was described by the highest proportion of people (34%) as a right wing party.
- Sinn Fein was described by the highest proportion of people (28%) as a left wing party.

## 6. Trust

The majority of respondents (55%) trusted the business community to promote what they consider to be good economic policy. But by far the most trusted were voluntary and community groups (73%). Respondents were least trusting of the European Union and the Northern Ireland Executive (both 39%). The UK Government and Trade Unions were trusted by 41% and 40% of respondents respectively.

### Which of the following would you trust, or not trust, to promote what you consider to be good economic policies?

	Voluntary and Community Groups	Business Community	Economists	UK Government	Trade Unions	European Union	Northern Ireland Executive
Trust	73%	55%	45%	41%	40%	39%	39%
Not Trust	13%	25%	28%	44%	36%	39%	41%
Don't know	14%	20%	27%	15%	24%	22%	19%

Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

### Political parties

Trust in political parties to promote good economic policies was generally quite low. Overall, the highest proportion of respondents trusted the SDLP (36%) and the lowest proportion trusted NI21 (9%). Many respondents stated that they did not know whether they trusted the parties in this respect. This was particularly the case for NI21 (61%), which has only recently been established.

Among the five largest parties (DUP, Sinn Fein, UUP, SDLP and Alliance), Sinn Fein have the lowest level of trust (21%). The DUP, UUP and Alliance have similar levels of trust.

### Which of the following would you trust, or not trust, to promote what you consider to be good economic policies?

	DUP	Sinn Fein	UUP	SDLP	Alliance	NI21	Green	TUV	UKIP
Trust	29%	21%	26%	36%	31%	9%	22%	11%	10%
Not Trust	41%	48%	40%	32%	35%	30%	35%	41%	40%
Don't know	30%	31%	34%	32%	35%	61%	44%	48%	50%

Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

Respondents with a Protestant community background expressed the highest levels of trust in the DUP (43%) and the UUP (40%). Interestingly, almost one third (32%) stated that they trust the nationalist SDLP.

### Which of the following would you trust, or not trust, to promote what you consider to be good economic policies?

#### Protestant community background

	SDLP	Alliance	DUP	UUP	Green	Sinn Fein	TUV	UKIP	NI21
Trust	32%	31%	43%	40%	20%	16%	18%	16%	12%
Not Trust	42%	41%	34%	35%	40%	61%	37%	39%	31%
Don't know	26%	29%	23%	26%	40%	23%	46%	45%	57%

Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

Respondents with a Catholic community background expressed most trust in the SDLP (43%) then the Alliance party (32%). The largest nationalist party, Sinn Fein, was trusted by 27% of respondents.

### Which of the following would you trust, or not trust, to promote what you consider to be good economic policies?

#### Catholic community background

	SDLP	Alliance	DUP	UUP	Green	Sinn Fein	TUV	UKIP	NI21
Trust	43%	32%	16%	14%	24%	27%	6%	5%	7%
Not Trust	22%	29%	48%	47%	30%	37%	44%	41%	29%
Don't know	34%	39%	36%	39%	46%	36%	50%	53%	64%

Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

#### Key Points:

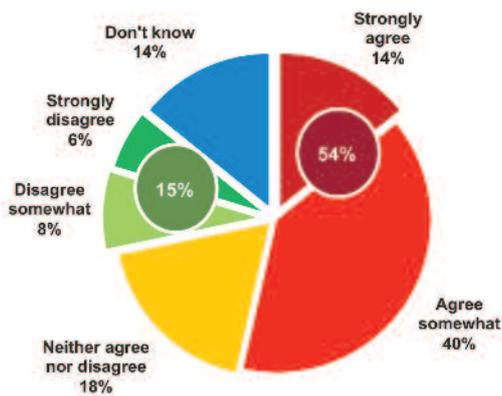
- Respondents were most likely to trust voluntary and community groups (73%) and the business community (55%) to promote good economic policies.
- Respondents were least likely to trust the European Union and the Northern Ireland Executive (both 39%).
- Trust in local political parties to promote good economic policy was generally low.
- Overall, the SDLP was the most trusted party to promote good economic policy (36%).
- Of the five largest parties, Sinn Fein was the least trusted (21%).

## 7. Devolution

### Impact of devolution on the economy

Over half (54%) of all respondents agreed that devolution has had a positive impact on the Northern Ireland economy. A minority (15%) disagreed that devolution has had a positive impact on the Northern Ireland economy and 14% didn't know. Almost one fifth (18%) neither agreed nor disagreed.

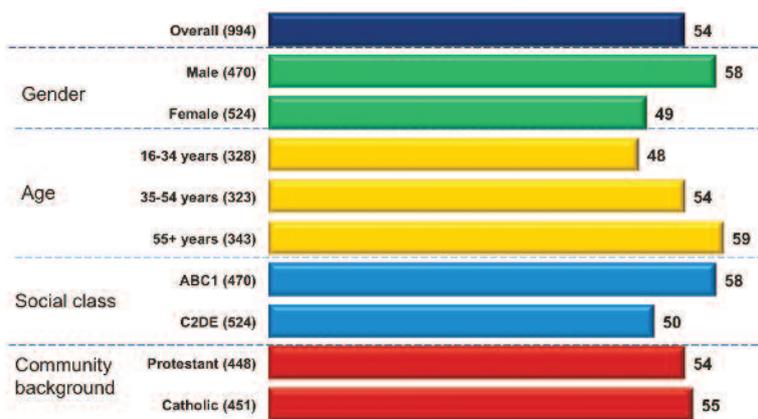
**To what extent would you agree or disagree with the statement: Devolution has had a positive impact on the Northern Ireland economy?**



Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

More men (58%) than women (49%) agreed that devolution has had a positive impact on the Northern Ireland economy. Older people were more likely to agree that devolution has had a positive effect while more respondents from socio-economic ABC1 agreed that devolution has had a positive impact compared to the C2DE group (58% v 50%). A similar proportion of people from Catholic and Protestant community backgrounds agreed that devolution has had a positive effect on the Northern Ireland economy.

**To what extent would you agree or disagree with the statement: Devolution has had a positive impact on the Northern Ireland economy?**



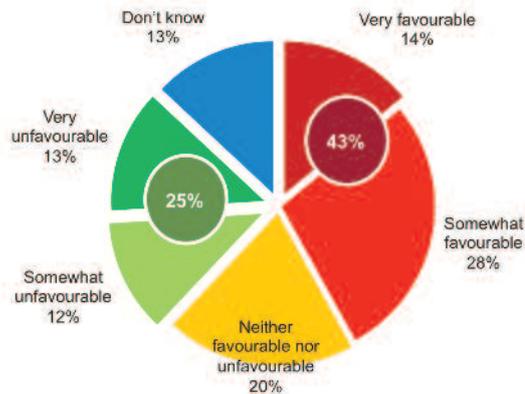
Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

### Devolution of taxation powers

Just over two fifths of respondents (42%) stated that they would be favourable towards the devolution of additional taxation powers. A quarter of respondents are unfavourable (25%). There is a degree of ambivalence, with one third (33%) of people saying that they either had no opinion (20%) or didn't know (13%) whether more taxation powers should be devolved.

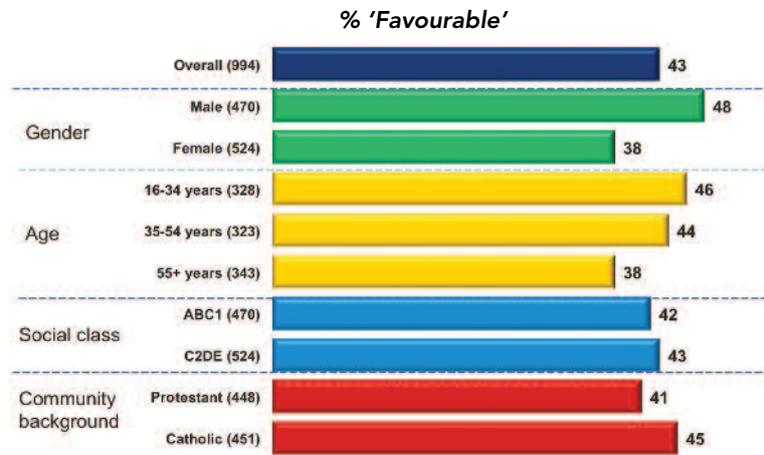
Significantly more males (48%) than females (38%) were favourable towards taxation powers being devolved to Northern Ireland. Younger age groups were more likely to be favourable. 46% of 16-34 year olds were favourable compared to 38% of those aged 55+ years. A fairly similar proportion of Protestants (41%) and Catholics (45%) were favourable.

### How favourable, or unfavourable, would you be towards more taxation powers being devolved to Northern Ireland?



Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

How favourable, or unfavourable, would you be towards more taxation powers being devolved to Northern Ireland?



Base: All adults aged 16+ (994), October/November 2013  
Source: Ipsos MORI

**Summary:**

- Over half (54%) of all respondents agreed that devolution has had a positive impact on the Northern Ireland economy.
- Similar levels of people from Protestant and Catholic community backgrounds agreed that devolution has had a positive impact on the economy.
- 43% were favourable towards devolving more taxation powers to Northern Ireland and 25% are unfavourable.
- Catholics were more favourable towards tax devolution than Protestants (45% v 41%).

## Appendix

### QUESTIONNAIRE

#### NICVA FINAL QUESTIONS (SECTION AL)

And now some questions about politics and the economy.

##### Q.AL1

*To what extent are you interested in politics?*

##### SHOWCARD AL1

Very interested	1
Fairly interested	2
Not that interested	3
Not at all interested	4
Don't know	5

##### Q.AL2

*To what extent are you interested in economics?*

##### SHOWCARD AL1

Very interested	1
Fairly interested	2
Not that interested	3
Not at all interested	4
Don't know	5

##### Q.AL3

*When deciding which political party to vote for how important to you is the party's policy on whether Northern Ireland should be part of the UK or part of a United Ireland?*

##### SHOWCARD AL3

Very important	1
Fairly important	2
Neither important nor unimportant	3
Fairly unimportant	4
Not at all important	5
Don't know	6

##### Q.AL4

*When deciding which political party to vote for how important to you is the party's economic policies?*

##### SHOWCARD AL3

Very important	1
Fairly important	2
Neither important nor unimportant	3
Fairly unimportant	4
Not at all important	5
Don't know	6

##### Q.AL5

*To what extent would you agree or disagree with the following statement: "I am well informed about the economic policies of local political parties?"*

##### SHOWCARD AL5

Strongly agree	1
Agree somewhat	2
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Disagree somewhat	4
Strongly disagree	5
Don't know	6

##### Q.AL6

*To what extent would you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Local political parties have a good knowledge of economics and economic policy?"*

##### SHOWCARD AL5

Strongly agree	1
Agree somewhat	2
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Disagree somewhat	4
Strongly disagree	5
Don't know	6

##### Q.AL7

*Some people describe their political views as being left wing or right wing. How would you describe your own views, would you say they are...?*

##### SHOWCARD Q.AL7

Left wing	1
Left of centre	2
Centre	3
Right of centre	4
Right wing	5
Don't know	6

**Q.AL8**

On economic issues where would you place the following political parties on the left-right spectrum?

READ OUT EACH PARTY

SHOWCARD AL7

		Left wing	Left of centre	Centre	Right of centre	Right wing	Don't know
A	DUP	1	2	3	4	5	6
B	SF	1	2	3	4	5	6
C	UUP	1	2	3	4	5	6
D	SDLP	1	2	3	4	5	6
E	All	1	2	3	4	5	6
F	NI21	1	2	3	4	5	6
G	Green	1	2	3	4	5	6
H	TUV	1	2	3	4	5	6
I	UKIP	1	2	3	4	5	6

**Q.AL9**

Which of the following would you trust, or not trust, to promote what you consider to be good economic policies?

READ OUT EACH ORGANSATION

SHOWCARD AL9

		Trust	Not trust	Don't know
A	The European Union	1	2	3
B	The UK Government	1	2	3
C	The Northern Ireland Executive	1	2	3
D	The business community	1	2	3
E	Economists	1	2	3
F	Trade Unions	1	2	3
G	Voluntary and community groups	1	2	3

**Q.AL10**

Which of the following political parties would you trust, or not trust to promote what you consider to be good economic policies?

READ OUT EACH PARTY

SHOWCARD AL9

		Trust	Not trust	Don't know
A	DUP	1	2	3
B	Sinn Fein	1	2	3
C	UUP	1	2	3
D	SDLP	1	2	3
E	Alliance	1	2	3
F	NI21	1	2	3
G	Green	1	2	3
H	TUV	1	2	3
I	UKIP	1	2	3

**Q.AL11**

To what extent would you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Devolution has had a positive impact on the Northern Ireland economy?"

SHOWCARD AL11

Strongly agree	1
Agree somewhat	2
Neither agree nor disagree	3
Disagree somewhat	4
Strongly disagree	5
Don't know	6

**Q.AL12**

How favourable, or unfavourable, would you be towards more taxation powers being devolved to Northern Ireland?

SHOWCARD AL12

Very favourable	1
Somewhat favourable	2
Neither favourable nor unfavourable	3
Somewhat unfavourable	4
Very unfavourable	5
Don't know	6



