

Dear Mr Paterson,

You have asked for views on how the Northern Ireland Assembly should operate going forward.

Question 8

"Do you think the Assembly would operate more effectively with a system which provides for a government and an effective opposition? If so, how can this system best be achieved?"

Am I reading this correctly that a Conservative & Unionist minister is asking if an opposition should be allowed in the NI Assembly in part of the UK?

You then go on to say:

"We remain clear, though, that any changes could only come about with the agreement of the parties in the Assembly."

So the Conservative party is allowing **Sinn Fein/Provisional IRA to have a veto on progress** and normal democracy is not allowed in part of the United Kingdom.

Isn't it time you showed some leadership on this matter and came out strongly in support of normal democracy in NI - regardless of what 'former' terrorists do or don't want?