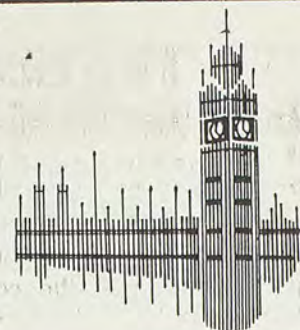


Alliance 1987 Manifesto



Time for Change

For the last eighteen months Northern Ireland has been forced to endure the adjournment of Councils, the boycotting of Westminster, and the re-emergence of street politics. Such **negative tactics** are destructive and counter-productive and undermine Northern Ireland's position as part of the United Kingdom. Simply saying NO is not good enough. There must be a genuine attempt to seek an alternative way forward.

Our **police force**, already the target of a systematic terrorist campaign, has been stretched even further by the actions of irresponsible politicians. Furthermore, failure of the SDLP to give total support to the police is a major obstacle to creating the climate for political progress.

The **image of Northern Ireland** at Westminster and around the world has been further tarnished. Potential inward investment, which otherwise could have contributed to reducing our catastrophic level of unemployment, has been lost.

The Alliance Party wants to **change** all this. But we can only do it **with your support**.

Alliance is genuinely committed to **initiating dialogue** with other political parties.

Alliance is totally committed to **upholding the Rule of Law** and **supporting the police**.

Alliance is and always has been committed to **improving Northern Ireland's image** by replacing the politics of division with the politics of reconciliation.

Alliance is already helping to **increase Northern Ireland's influence at Westminster** by working closely with the SDP/Liberal Alliance.

Change will only come about when YOU vote for it.

The **TIME FOR CHANGE** is now!

Vote **ALLIANCE** on 11th June.



Candidate: JOHN CUSHNAHAN

John first became involved in politics in the early 1970s when Northern Ireland was going through a traumatic period due to increasing terrorism and deteriorating community relations. Deeply concerned at this turn of events, he left the teaching profession and pledged himself to work full-time for reconciliation within our divided community.

He was appointed General Secretary of the Alliance Party in 1974 and served in this post until 1982, when he was elected to the Northern Ireland Assembly for the North Down Constituency. As well as working unceasingly on behalf of his constituents, he was also appointed Chairman of the Assembly Education Committee, a post he held with great distinction.

In 1984 John was elected leader of the Alliance Party. In that role he has given courageous and principled leadership and has been an outspoken and fearless opponent of political extremism and terrorist organisations. During what has been a very difficult period for the Province, his has been the voice of reason and sanity offering a constructive way forward out of the current political impasse.

Vote

CUSHNAHAN



The Economy

Unemployment is Northern Ireland's major social problem. **Alliance** proposes an increase in public expenditure to produce immediate **jobs**, particularly in public service and the construction industry, to help alleviate growing social deprivation.

Furthermore, **European funds** for Northern Ireland should be additional to and not a substitute for British Government funding. The current Whitehall approach has delayed the Integrated Operations Programme and could jeopardise future European Community initiatives.

Our **manufacturing** base has been devastated in recent years. For this reason we will work unceasingly to create and preserve jobs in the **shipbuilding, aircraft, engineering** and other related industries.

We will press for further initiatives by the IDB to attract **new industries** through inward investment, particularly in the **new technologies**, and will support and encourage greater co-operation between industry and our two universities. We should use local talent and not let others take our brightest young people away.

A **Regional Economic Development Plan** which would include improved **marketing facilities** should be drawn up to assist all areas of Northern Ireland.

Alliance is concerned about the dangers of nuclear waste and urges the development of environmentally safer **energy sources**. One such source is **lignite** and the local deposits should be developed in ways which will benefit the people of Northern Ireland and not just the business investors. We also oppose the attempts by the Government to bring about a creeping privatisation of Northern Ireland Electricity Service.

Agriculture

The encouragement of **local industries in rural communities** would provide work for the families of farmers and provide young people and those leaving farming with employment while still living in the country.

In addition to pressing for reform of the **Common Agricultural Policy** of the European Community, **Alliance** believes that the UK should join the **European Monetary System**. This would avoid fluctuations in the value of the "Green Pound". The resulting distortions in market prices have encouraged meat smuggling to the disadvantage of Northern Ireland farmers and meat processing plants.

Party

The Alliance Party was founded in 1988 and moved from them:

- **Support for the constitutional link partnership government in Northern Ireland**
- **Equality of justice and esteem for government and public life by people**
- **Establishment of universal respect for fear or favour in every part of Northern Ireland**
- **Rejection of rigid doctrinaire approaches**

Education

The **Alliance Party** will press for **pre-school provision** for all three and four year-olds, giving priority to children in deprived circumstances.

We advocate the abolition of the **11-plus examination**. This will enable the primary school curriculum to be widened in preparation for the new GCSE courses.

Alliance proposes the restoration of travel and minimum grants for full-time students and the introduction of mandatory grants for part-time students to make **third level education** accessible to all those who wish to avail of it.

More **community based programmes** are needed to help adults who wish to learn basic life skills such as numeracy, literacy, budgeting and child care.

Alliance supports the concept of religious **integration** by consent at all levels of education.

Housing

Attempts by the Housing Executive to improve our poor housing stock have been hampered by financial cut-backs. **Alliance** proposes **increased spending on housing** projects to reduce waiting lists, improve accommodation and provide employment. The critical **rural housing** problem, in particular, must receive urgent attention.

We welcome the decision to make the Housing Executive responsible for provision for the **homeless** but demand that additional resources be made available to deal with the problem.



PROGRESS through

principles

On four major principles. We have never

**with Great Britain and devolved
Ireland.**

**citizens, with effective participation in
from all sections of the community.**

**for the rule of law, administered without
Ireland.**

aches to social and economic problems.



Defence

Alliance welcomes the present moves between East and West on major **nuclear** weapons reductions. However, negotiation must be from a position of strength. Fulfilment of all obligations of NATO membership is essential to the UK.

However, if it proves impossible to achieve sufficient progress in agreed disarmament then cost effective ways must be found to **maintain an independent British contribution to both the nuclear and conventional forces** of the Western Alliance.

Health & Social Services

Alliance supports the **Welfare State and the Health Service** and fiercely opposes the major financial cut backs of the present government. We believe that the UK should not be spending less on health than other western countries.

We have serious reservations about the recent reform of **Social Security**. Some changes were needed but they should have been made on the basis of dealing fairly with those in need and not just on cutting costs. The **Social Fund** payments in particular will lead to many low income families being even worse off.

Alliance has tabled specific proposals relating to:

- care of the elderly.
- one parent families.
- disturbed adolescents.
- prevention and treatment of AIDS.
- needs of the chronically sick and disabled.

Prevention of illness is the key to a healthy community. We propose a greater emphasis on **preventative health care** and the upgrading of the new, but inadequate, Health Education Authority.

Environment

Alliance is committed to the **protection** of our environment. We are especially concerned for the care of our rivers and fresh water resources and on the **elimination of pollution**.

Alliance will campaign for financial assistance for **afforestation** projects. These would enhance the landscape, provide employment in hill areas and protect and extend valuable wild-life habitats.

We welcome the **Laganside Project** and the agreement in principle for an integration of the Northern Ireland Rail System by linking York Road to Central Station. **Alliance** will press for the necessary finance to be made available at the earliest possible date.

The above is only a summary of the Alliance Manifesto.

If you have any further questions, or would like more information, please contact Alliance Party Headquarters, 88 University Street, Belfast, BT7 1HE. (Tel. 0232-324274).

gh PARTNERSHIP



NORTH DOWN CONSTITUENCY

Westminster Election

Thursday, 11th June, 1987

7.00 a.m. — 10.00 p.m.

TIME
FOR
CHANGE

Vote
ALLIANCE

Candidate: JOHN CUSHNAHAN



John Cushnahan with Deputy Party Leader, Addie Morrow.

THE ALLIANCE RECORD

TEAMWORK:

John Cushnahan and the ten Alliance Councillors throughout the North Down and Castlereagh area have **worked together** on your behalf effectively and efficiently.

A CONTINUING SERVICE:

Alliance representatives, unlike many others, do not appear **only** at election time. All year round they deal with thousands of your **constituency problems** relating to **planning, housing, education and health and social services.**

PROTECTING RATEPAYERS INTERESTS:

All Alliance Councillors have opposed the **policy of adjourning councils** on the basis that it is illegal and that it undermines local government services to ratepayers. By initiating **legal proceedings** the Alliance Councillors on North Down Council, currently the largest group, convinced some individual Councillors to join them and support the **resumption of normal business.** Legal action is still pending in Castlereagh to protect jobs and vital services in the area.

DEFENDING ESSENTIAL FACILITIES:

Alliance representatives have been to the forefront of the campaign to preserve existing **hospital services** in Bangor, Crawfordsburn, Ards and Dundonald. They have also strenuously campaigned for better **nursery, primary, secondary and further education facilities** in North Down and Castlereagh.

SUPPORT FOR THE RULE OF LAW:

While others have prevaricated and supported illegal protests, the Alliance Party has steadfastly upheld the **Rule of Law** and given total support to the police.

POSITIVE LEADERSHIP:

While Unionist MPs boycotted Parliament and Northern Ireland Office Ministers, the Alliance Party, under the capable leadership of **John Cushnahan, has kept dialogue open** with the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State and other Ministers, on devolution, security and all matters of importance to the people of Northern Ireland.

Vote

CUSHNAHAN

