





September 2017 – Northern Ireland (NI) Wide Tracker Poll LucidTalk Tracker Poll (Northern Ireland) Results Report TRACKER POLL QUESTIONS RESULTS - GENERAL REPORT (12th September 2017)

This report covers all results and commentary for the complete poll-survey project – LT NI Opinion Panel 'Tracker Poll' September 2017: Party-Political preference, Irish Language Act, understanding of Irish Language Act, Same-Sex Marriage, Stormont MLA Salaries, Stormont Talks and Direct Rule.

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Subject LT Opinion Panel Polling Projects

Issue 12th September: LT NI Opinion Panel Poll-Project – Quarterly Tracker Poll: Final Results – General Report

Date (Base Version): 12th September 2017

Author(s) Bill White - LucidTalk





LUCIDTALK MONTHLY TRACKER POLLS - Introduction and Background

LucidTalk run scheduled regular 'Tracker' polls of their established Northern Ireland online Opinion Panel - usually on a quarterly basis (every three months). The LucidTalk Opinion Panel (now 10,103 members) consists of Northern Ireland residents (age 18+) and is balanced by gender, age-group, area of residence, and community background, in order to be demographically representative of Northern Ireland. This is the report from LTs September 2017 poll – Main topics covered: Irish Language Act, Same-Sex Marriage, Stormont institutions, and MLA Salaries. This is the first of two LT Autumn 2017 polls – Poll No. 2 (20th – 23rd October 2017) will cover NI Border, NI Border poll, Brexit, and EU issues.

The objective of these scheduled and regular 'Tracker' polls is to research opinion on key issues at key points in time + track changes in trends and opinions about key topics and issues over the period of the NI Westminster Election campaign.

For this 'Tracker' poll-project our 10,103 member NI Opinion Panel was targeted, and invited to participate, 3,104 responses were received, and after data auditing to ensure:

- (a) 'one person-one vote' responses, and
- (b) the collation of a robust, accurate, and balanced representative NI sample,
- 2,080 full responses were recorded and used for analysis in terms of the final results.

Methodology:

Polling was carried out by Belfast based polling and market research company LucidTalk. The project was carried out online for a period of 80 Hours from 1pm 8th September 2017 to 9pm 11th September 2017 (80 Hours). The project targeted the established Northern Ireland (NI) LucidTalk online Opinion Panel (10,103 members) which is balanced by gender, age-group, area of residence, and community background, in order to be demographically representative of Northern Ireland. 3,104 full responses were received, and a data auditing process was carried out to ensure all completed poll-surveys were genuine 'one-person, one-vote' responses, and also to collate a robust and accurate balanced NI representative sample. This resulted in 2,080 responses being considered in terms of the final results - the results presented in this report.

All data results have been weighted by gender and community background to reflect the demographic composition of Northern Ireland resulting in 2,080 responses being considered in terms of the final results. All data results produced are accurate to a margin of error of +/-3.0%, at 95% confidence.

All surveys and polls may be subject to sources of error, including, but not limited to sampling error, coverage error, and measurement error. All reported margins of sampling error include the computed design effects for weighting.

LucidTalk - Professional Credentials

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Note to Publishers: According to agreed British Polling Council and UK IPSO procedure - Parts in Red MUST be published - if not in full then in a format that conveys the same meaning. This can be in 'small-type' e.g. in a box at the bottom of the coverage etc. Parts in black type are desirable to be included, but not essential.





LT September 2017 NI Tracker Poll: FULL REPORT AND COMMENTARY LT NI 'Tracker' POLLS: September 2017 – Topics include: IDISH LANGUAGE ACT, SAME SEX MARRIAGE, STORMONT INSTITUTIONS, MILE

IRISH LANGUAGE ACT, SAME-SEX MARRIAGE, STORMONT INSTITUTIONS, MLA PAY

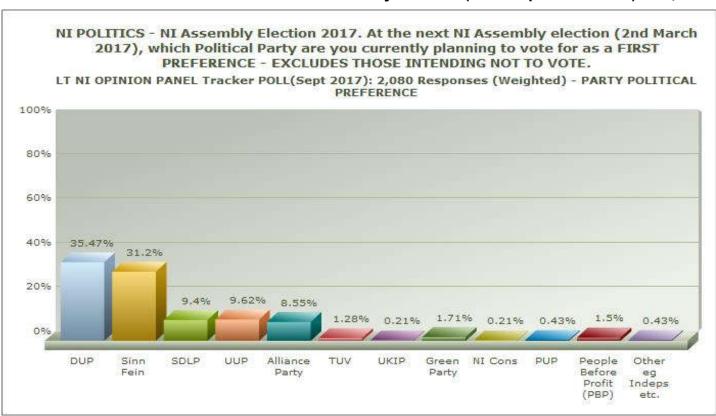
KEY POINTS AND HEADLINES

The benefit of LucidTalk's regular scheduled polling is that it shows changes in trends and opinions at regular intervals over time – both pre and post elections. This report covers results from the LT Quarterly NI Opinion Panel 'Tracker' Polls – Autumn NI-Wide 'Tracker' poll: September 2017.

NB All commentary is provided 'for guidance' and for information purposes only. Commentary and analysis is not meant to be absolute determinations from the poll results, as poll and market research results can be subject to differing interpretations, commentary, and conclusions.

BASE POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE – AT A NI ASSEMBLY ELECTION TOMMOROW, WHO WOULD YOU VOTE FOR? -

NI POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE - NI Assembly Election (Poll: September 2017) - Graphic 1A



KEY HEADLINES:

- DUP and Sinn Fein consolidate their positions as the two leading parties. <u>DUP have jumped 7.4% points since the NI Assembly election in March 2017, similarly Sinn Fein are up 3.3% since the last NI Assembly election.</u>
- UUP have dropped significantly i.e. by -3.3%, and the SDLP by -2.5%, since the last NI Assembly election (March 2017). This means that the UUP in particular could be in big trouble if another NI Assembly election is called again soon. These poll figures mean they could possibly lose 3-4 seats from their current 10, and fall behind the Alliance party. NB although the SDLP have also dropped by a notable margin they (like the Alliance party) have structurally 'safer seats' under the NI PR election system used for the NI Assembly. The UUP don't have these type of 'safe seats' e.g. most of their MLAs got elected during the later PR counts at the last election.

In terms of the detailed comparison between all the poll figures (as per graph above) – see table below.

LucidTalk Limited | The Innovation Centre | NI Science Park I Queen's Road | Queen's Island | Belfast BT3 9DT Telephone: 028 9073 7800 (Switchboard) | 028 9040 9980 (Direct) | 07711 450545 (Mobile)

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NI POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE – NI Assembly Election (Poll: September 2017) – Table 1B This shows comparison with previous 2017 elections. NB The poll results in this table are the same as Table 1A above.

LUCIDTALK - NI Tracker Polls - September 2017. 2,080 responses (Weighted)	Sept 2017 - THIS POLL	Assembly Election	Change vs General Election 2017 (8th June 2017)
	Sept17 Poll		
DUP	35.5%	7.4%	-0.5%
SINN FEIN	31.2%	3.3%	1.8%
SDLP	9.4%	-2.5%	-2.3%
UUP	9.6%	-3.3%	-0.7%
ALLIANCE	8.6%	-0.5%	0.7%
TUV	1.3%	-1.2%	0.9%
UKIP	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%
GREEN PARTY	1.7%	-0.6%	0.8%
NI CONSERVATIVES	0.2%	0.0%	-0.3%
PUP	0.4%	-0.3%	0.4%
PBP	1.5%	-0.3%	0.8%
OTHERS	0.4%	-2.0%	-1.6%

This shows the current poll results when compared to the last two elections – The NI Assembly Election (March 2017), and the NI Westminster election (June 2017). The main and most useful comparison to make is with the NI Assembly election (2017) as this is the actual poll question. Strong increases are shown in 'Blue', strong decreases in 'Red', small decreases (but still noteworthy) in 'light brown'

Political Party Preference Poll - Notes:

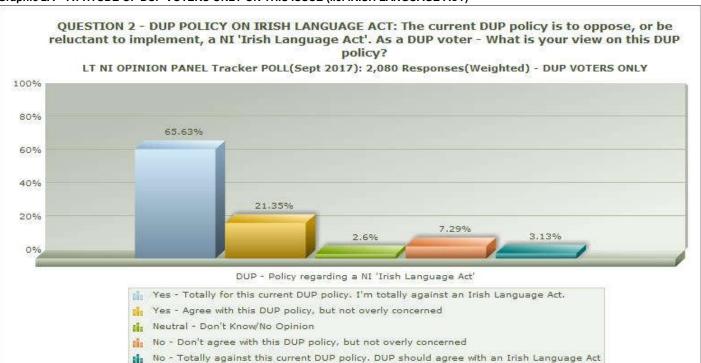
- Yes, we have altered our modelling systems slightly since the Westminster election (when we underestimated the DUP, and overestimated the UUP), but even taking this into account this is a still a very significant drop for the UUP, and suggests another NI Assembly election could lead to them losing 2-4 NI Assembly seats from the 10 they currently hold. Put it this way, and just as an audit-check, we modelled our data using the systems we used for the NI Assembly election in March 2017 (i.e. before we implemented the changes as detailed above), and it still showed a 2%-2.5% drop for the UUP, and an increase of 4% for the DUP so the trend is undoubtedly there.
- The above suggests that former and very loyal UUP supporters are now not intending to vote UUP, with a large chunk going to the DUP. Looking at the voluntary comments within the poll, former strong UUP supporters now say the party has dropped so much that it should look to a merger with the DUP i.e. they are not necessarily 'against' the UUP, but just think it has now declined too far to recover. The threat from Sinn Fein (i.e. as seen from the perspective of Unionist voters) is also driving this i.e. fall-in behind the largest Unionist party (the DUP) as the largest challengers to Sinn Fein etc.
- Likewise, the SDLP has suffered a drop of 2.5% from the March Assembly election, whilst Sinn Fein has consolidated its position with a rise of 3.3%. As such, Sinn Fein has even increased its position, from the powerful showing it made at the Stormont NI Assembly election in March, i.e. with this 3.3% increase, and this Sinn Fein score is also 1.8% up on the vote share Sinn Fein achieved at the Westminster election.



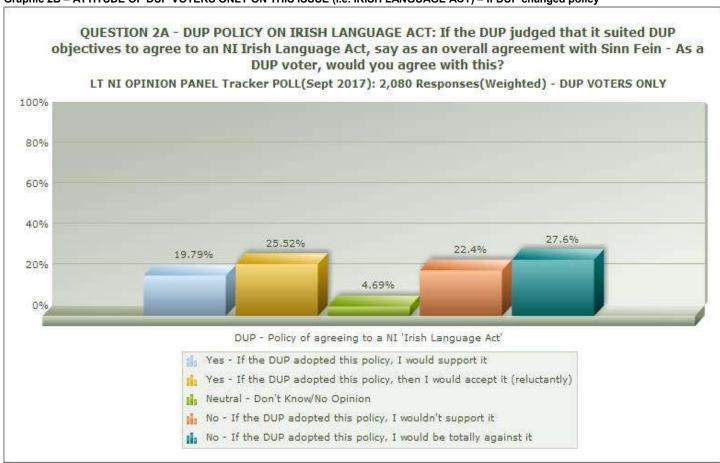


IRISH LANGUAGE ACT ISSUES

Graphic 2A - ATTITUDE OF DUP VOTERS ONLY ON THIS ISSUE (i.e. IRISH LANGUAGE ACT)



<u>Key Note:</u> Large support from the DUP base for the current DUP policy of opposing an Irish Language Act. Graphic 2B – ATTITUDE OF DUP VOTERS ONLY ON THIS ISSUE (i.e. IRISH LANGUAGE ACT) – If DUP changed policy



<u>Key Note:</u> Large part of DUP support base wouldn't support a change in the current DUP Irish Language Act policy. With this level of opposition (from their own supporters) it would be difficult for the DUP to change this policy.

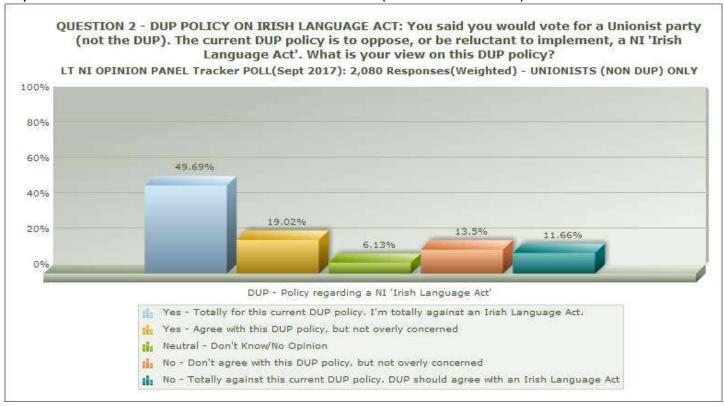
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Graphic 2C - ATTITUDE OF NON-DUP UNIONIST VOTERS ON THIS ISSUE (i.e. IRISH LANGUAGE ACT)



<u>Key Note:</u> Large part of 'Other Unionists' support base (UUP, TUV, UKIP, PUP, etc.) also support the DUPs anti-Irish Language Act policy.

Graphic 2D - ATTITUDE OF NON-DUP UNIONIST VOTERS ON THIS ISSUE (i.e. IRISH LANGUAGE ACT) - If DUP changed policy QUESTION 2A - DUP POLICY ON IRISH LANGUAGE ACT: As a Unionist voter (not the DUP), if the DUP judged that it suited DUP objectives to agree to a NI Irish Language Act, say as an overall agreement with Sinn Fein - Would you agree with this? LT NI OPINION PANEL Tracker POLL(Sept 2017): 2,080 Responses(Weighted) - UNIONISTS (NON DUP) ONLY 100% 80% 60% 40% 34.36% 25,15% 18.4% 20% 13.5% 8.59% DUP - Policy of agreeing to a NI 'Irish Language Act' Yes - If the DUP adopted this policy, I would support it Yes - If the DUP adopted this policy, then I would accept it (reluctantly) Neutral - Don't Know/No Opinion in No - If the DUP adopted this policy, I wouldn't support it No - If the DUP adopted this policy, I would be totally against it

<u>Key Note:</u> Again, a large part of the 'Other Unionists' support base (UUP, TUV, UKIP, PUP, etc.) wouldn't support a change in the current DUP Irish Language Act policy.

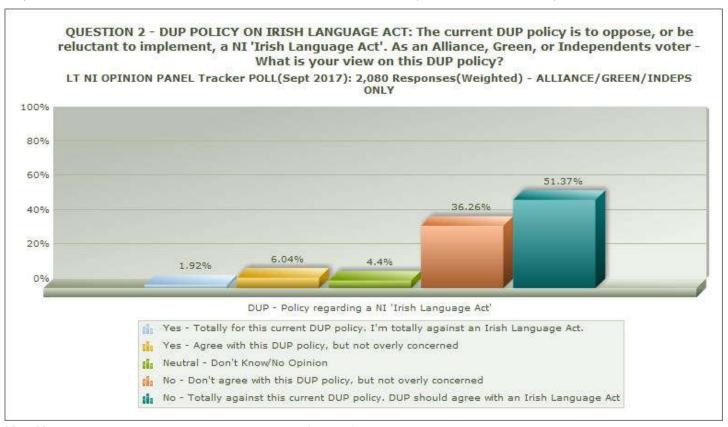
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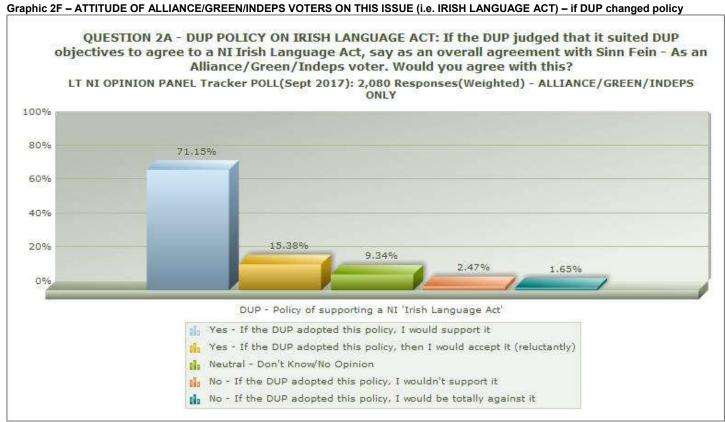




Graphic 2E - ATTITUDE OF ALLIANCE/GREEN/INDEPS VOTERS ON THIS ISSUE (i.e. IRISH LANGUAGE ACT)



<u>Key Note:</u> Not surprisingly, large Nos of Alliance/Green/Independents think the current DUP anti-Irish Language Act policy is wrong, and think the DUP should change policy and support an Irish Language Act.



Key Note: Large part of Alliance/Green/Independents group would support the DUP changing policy and supporting an Irish Language Act. This isn't a surprising result.

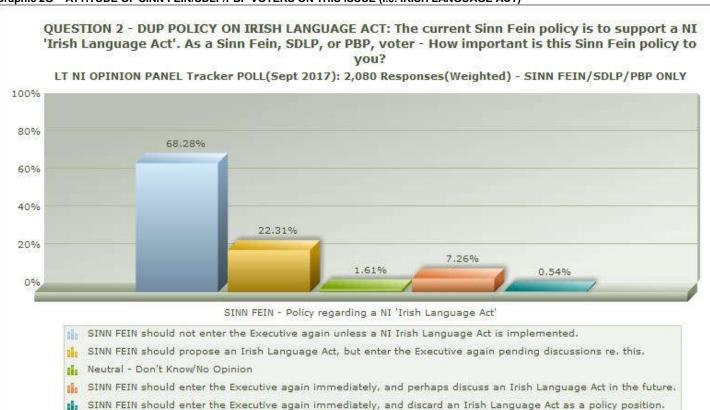
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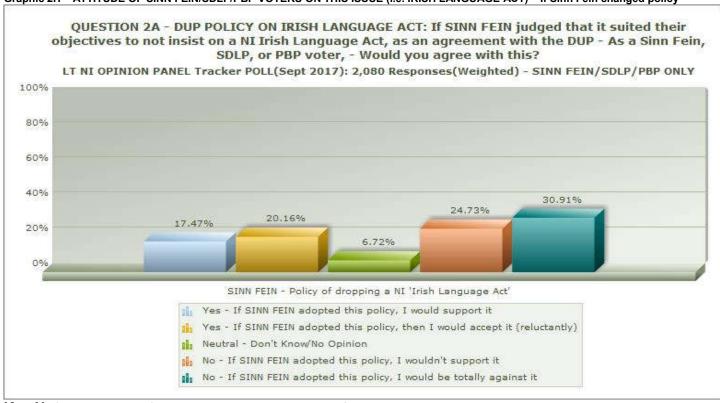






<u>Key Note:</u> Large part of Sinn Fein's support base support SF's strong stance on Irish Language Act i.e. 68% say don't go back into a NI Executive until an Irish Language Act is implemented.

Graphic 2H – ATTITUDE OF SINN FEIN/SDLP/PBP VOTERS ON THIS ISSUE (i.e. IRISH LANGUAGE ACT) – If Sinn Fein changed policy



<u>Key Note:</u> Large part of Sinn Fein support base wouldn't support a change in the current Sinn Fein Irish Language Act policy, and 31% would be very much opposed/annoyed if SF dropped or altered this 'pro-Irish Language Act' policy.

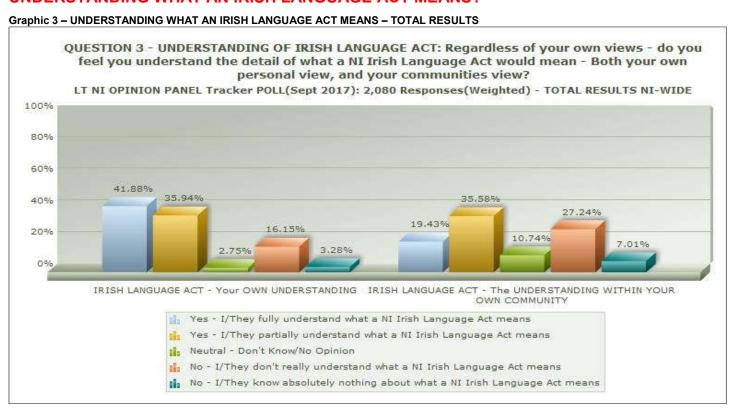




IRISH LANGUAGE ACT – NOTES:

- Irish Language Act: As expected DUP and Sinn Fein supporters overwhelmingly support their own parties positions i.e. SF for an Irish Language Act, DUP against.
- However, the key question is/was 'What would be your attitude if your parties reversed their position?' e.g. What would DUP supporters think if the DUP leadership 'agrees to' an Irish Language Act?, and What would SF supporters think if SF dropped their demand for an Irish Language Act? The results for both these questions are above: GRAPHS 2B and 2H RESPECTIVELY. Both these questions show that, Yes, as expected there is/was a section (approx. a quarter of each party's supporters base) would go along with those 'significant' changes in policy, but what is very noteworthy is that 25-40% of each supporter's base would be totally very much against these (fairly dramatic it has to be said) changes in policy.
- We would suggest that these figures (i.e. as detailed above and in graphs 2B and 2H respectively) although minorities of each party's supporters base, are too high for either party to move significantly on the Irish Language Act policy issue. With these types of questions if more than 10% of a party's supporter base are 'very against' this type of policy change (i.e. in effect a major policy change for either party) then that is too high for either party to move/change policy (at least immediately) as a vociferous minority (even just 10%) can/could derail this type of major policy change. Plus, NB our polling shows, i.e. see above, that these 'anti' minorities are much more than 10% (i.e. it's 25-40%) within each party's supporters base.
- It should be taken into account that on the Nationalist/Republican side we have collated together the responses from Sinn Fein, SDLP, and PBP voters so this is not a pure Sinn Fein view. However, we thought it important to gauge the whole Nationalist/Republican base as this is something Sinn Fein themselves will have to consider, and not just their own supporter base. Indeed, it could be said, that the results above would probably be even more in support of a 'hardline' positon regarding the Irish Language Act, if only Sinn Fein supporters' views were considered i.e. on their own

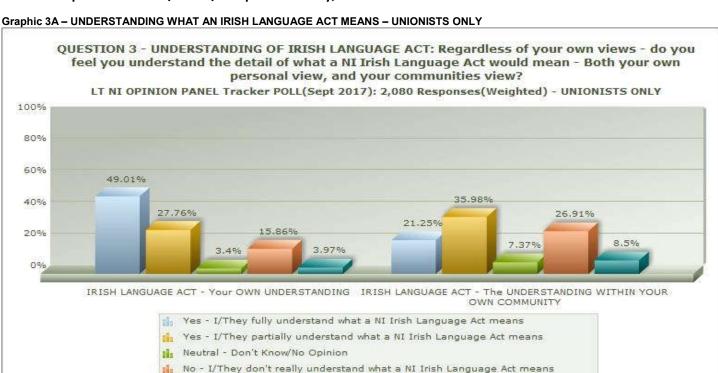
UNDERSTANDING WHAT AN IRISH LANGUAGE ACT MEANS?



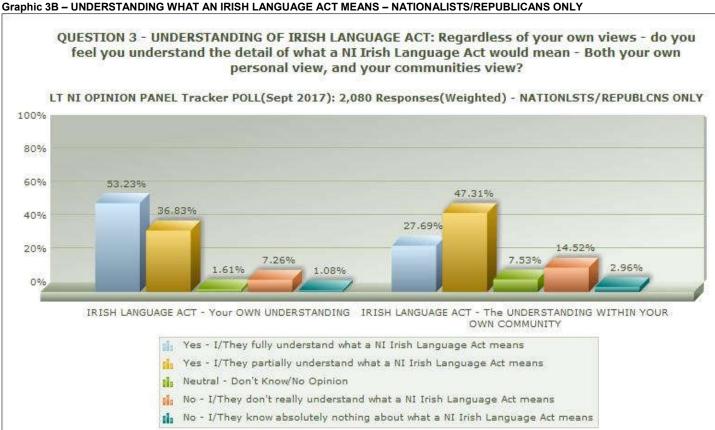




Understanding of Irish Language Act: This showed a variation in opinion with respondents mostly saying that they understood what an Irish Language Act meant personally, but they mostly thought their community didn't. As would be expected there is a notable difference between Unionists and Nationalists on this question. See below for what Graph 3A - Unionists only, Graph 3B - Nationalists/Republicans only, and Graph 3C - Alliance/Green/Independents only, think about this issue.



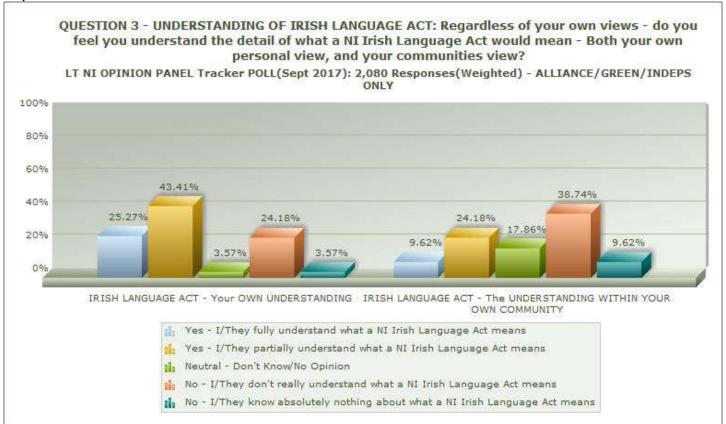
No - I/They know absolutely nothing about what a NI Irish Language Act means







Graphic 3C - UNDERSTANDING WHAT AN IRISH LANGUAGE ACT MEANS - ALLIANCE/GREEN/INDEPENDENTS ONLY



UNDERSTANDING AN IRISH LANGUAGE ACT – DEMOGRAPHIC NOTES:

- Looking at the key columns of the possible answers: 'No - I/They don't really understand what a NI Irish Language Act means' and/or 'No - I/They know absolutely nothing about what a NI Irish Language Act means'. Unionists scored these answers 16.3% and 4.1% respectively, i.e. in terms of their own personal view – but scored them 27.1% and 8.7% respectively when asked what they thought their own community thought about these questions. Basically there is (understandably) a sizable part of the Unionist community who don't understand what an Irish Language Act would mean. But more interestingly, there is also a section of the Nationalist/Republican community who don't have an understanding either, and although this No. is smaller than the Unionists (as would be expected!) – its noteworthy that it exists at all.



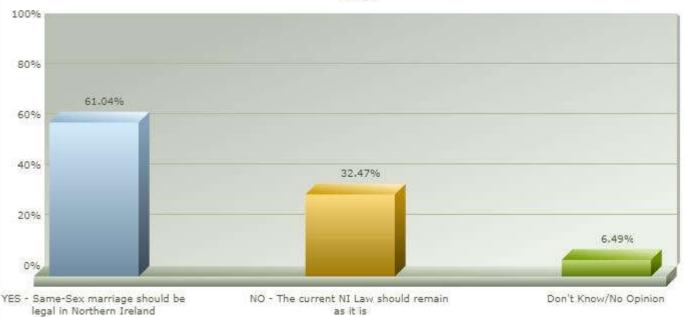


SAME SEX MARRIAGE ISSUE

Graphic 4 - SAME SEX MARRIAGE: DO YOU SUPPORT OR NOT SUPPORT SAME-SEX MARRIAGE FOR NI? - TOTAL NI RESULTS

NI - SAME-SEX MARRIAGE ISSUE QUESTION 4 - SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IN NI: Same-Sex Marriage is now legal in Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland, but not in Northern Ireland. If a referendum on Same-Sex Marriage was to be held in Northern Ireland tomorrow, which way would you vote?

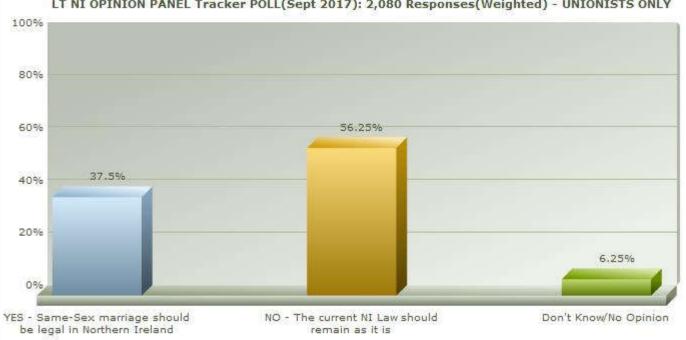
LT NI OPINION PANEL Tracker POLL(Sept 2017): 2,080 Responses(Weighted) - TOTAL RESULTS NI-WIDE



Graphic 4A - SAME SEX MARRIAGE: DO YOU SUPPORT OR NOT SUPPORT SAME-SEX MARRIAGE FOR NI? - UNIONISTS ONLY

NI - SAME-SEX MARRIAGE ISSUE QUESTION 4 - SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IN NI: Same-Sex Marriage is now legal in Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland, but not in Northern Ireland. If a referendum on Same-Sex Marriage was to be held in Northern Ireland tomorrow, which way would you vote?

LT NI OPINION PANEL Tracker POLL(Sept 2017): 2,080 Responses(Weighted) - UNIONISTS ONLY



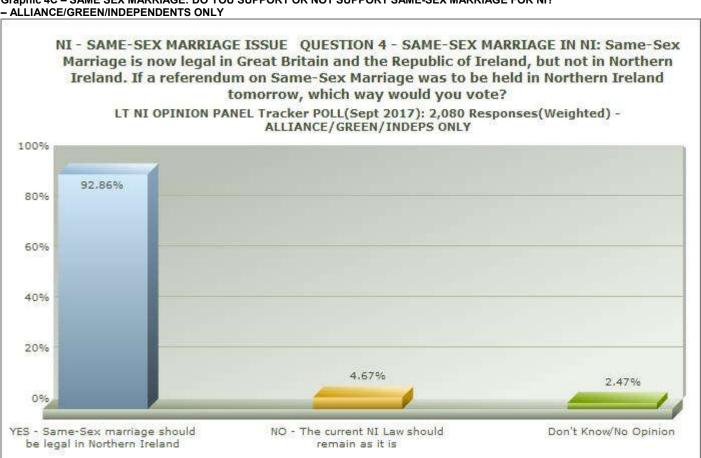




Graphic 4B - SAME SEX MARRIAGE: DO YOU SUPPORT OR NOT SUPPORT SAME-SEX MARRIAGE FOR NI? - NATIONALISTS/REPUBLICANS ONLY

NI - SAME-SEX MARRIAGE ISSUE QUESTION 4 - SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IN NI: Same-Sex Marriage is now legal in Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland, but not in Northern Ireland. If a referendum on Same-Sex Marriage was to be held in Northern Ireland tomorrow, which way would you vote? LT NI OPINION PANEL Tracker POLL(Sept 2017): 2,080 Responses(Weighted) -NATIONLSTS/REPUBLENS ONLY 100% 91,4% 80% 60% 40% 20% 6.99% 1.61% 0.9% YES - Same-Sex marriage should Don't Know/No Opinion NO - The current NI Law should be legal in Northern Ireland remain as it is

Graphic 4C - SAME SEX MARRIAGE: DO YOU SUPPORT OR NOT SUPPORT SAME-SEX MARRIAGE FOR NI?



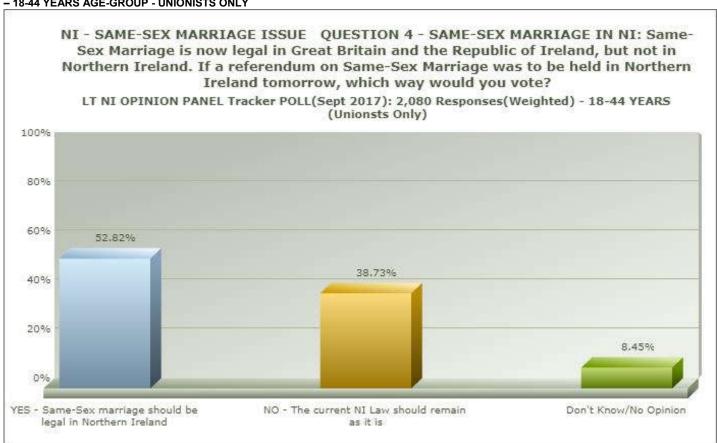




SAME-SEX MARRIAGE ISSUE IN NI – GENERAL NOTES

- Same-Sex Marriage (SSM): The results are running (like previous polls) to show that in a NI Referendum SSM would be passed, however, at a lesser margin than previous polls indicated. This is because an increased No. of Unionists (albeit a small increase in Nos) are now saying they would vote against SSM in a referendum. At our last poll a narrow majority of Unionists were against SSM the margin of this Unionist majority (i.e. against SSM) has now increased i.e. 56% of Unionists say they would vote against SSM in a NI referendum on the issue (compared to 52-53% in our previous polls).
- We see, the usual and expected results from Nationalists/Republicans and Alliance/Green/Independent re. the SSM issue with both these groups being overwhelmingly in favour of SSM.
- So when we look at the total NI results we see that 61% are in favour of SSM in NI, with 32% against, and 6.5% Don't Know/No Opinion. With this 61% being made up of practically all Nationalists/Republicans and Alliance/Green/Independent voters, plus a significant minority of Unionists.
- Yes, it's still only a small majority of Unionists who are against SSM, but its noteworthy that it has increased.

Graphic 4D – SAME SEX MARRIAGE: DO YOU SUPPORT OR NOT SUPPORT SAME-SEX MARRIAGE FOR NI? – 18-44 YEARS AGE-GROUP - UNIONISTS ONLY



<u>Key Note:</u> Note that a majority of the 18-44 year-old Unionists are pro same-sex marriage, although this majority is very small with an overall score from this demographic of just 53% pro. It is the 45+ years Unionist age demographic that are overwhelmingly against legalising Same-Sex marriage in Northern Ireland, thus tipping the balance of the overall total Unionist population to 56% against (see graphic 4A above). As can be seen below i.e. Graphics 4E and 4F, Alliance/Green/Independents supporters, and Sinn Fein/SDLP/PBP supporters, are overwhelmingly in favour of Same-Sex Marriage with scores 'for' at 94% and 96% respectively.





Graphic 4E – SAME SEX MARRIAGE: DO YOU SUPPORT OR NOT SUPPORT SAME-SEX MARRIAGE FOR NI? – 18-44 YEARS AGE-GROUP - ALLIANCE/GREEN/INDEPENDENTS ONLY

NI - SAME-SEX MARRIAGE ISSUE QUESTION 4 - SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IN NI: Same-Sex Marriage is now legal in Great Britain and the Republic of Ireland, but not in Northern Ireland. If a referendum on Same-Sex Marriage was to be held in Northern Ireland tomorrow, which way would you vote? LT NI OPINION PANEL Tracker POLL(Sept 2017): 2,080 Responses(Weighted) - 18-44 YEARS (ALL/GRN/INDEP) 100% 94.44% 80% 60% 40% 20% 3,33% 2.22% 0% YES - Same-Sex marriage should NO - The current NI Law should Don't Know/No Opinion be legal in Northern Ireland remain as it is

Graphic 4f - SAME SEX MARRIAGE: DO YOU SUPPORT OR NOT SUPPORT SAME-SEX MARRIAGE FOR NI? - 18.44 YEARS AGE-GROUP - NATIONALISTS/REPUBLICANS ONLY

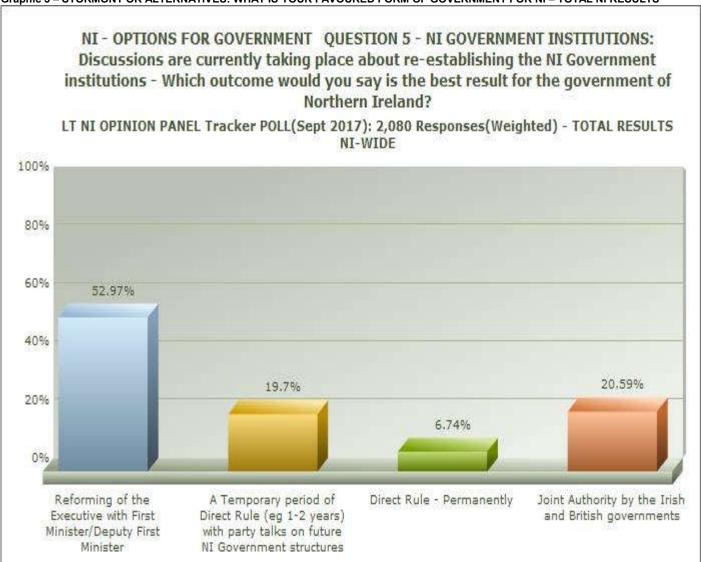






REFORMING (ie starting again) THE STORMONT INSTITUTIONS

Graphic 5 - STORMONT OR ALTERNATIVES: WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURED FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR NI - TOTAL NI RESULTS



<u>Key Note:</u> There is still a majority (slight) in favour of restoring the Stormont Executive and Stormont institutions – although this majority has been narrowing in recent polls with this question, with this option scoring only 53% now. Support for a temporary period of direct rule, or Joint Authority has grown since our last poll.



100%

80%

60%

40%

20%

0%

Reforming of the

Executive with First

Minister/Deputy First

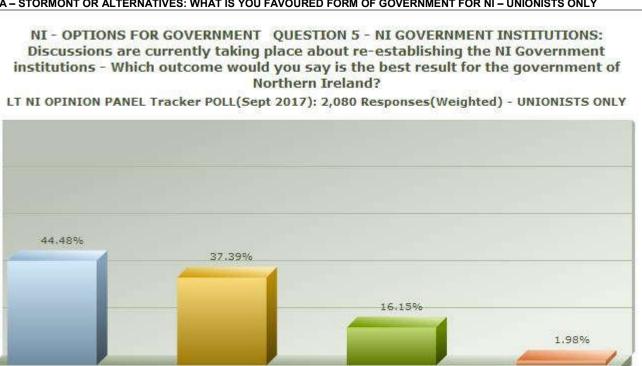
Minister



Joint Authority by the Irish

and British governments

Graphic 5A - STORMONT OR ALTERNATIVES: WHAT IS YOU FAVOURED FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR NI - UNIONISTS ONLY



Direct Rule - Permanently

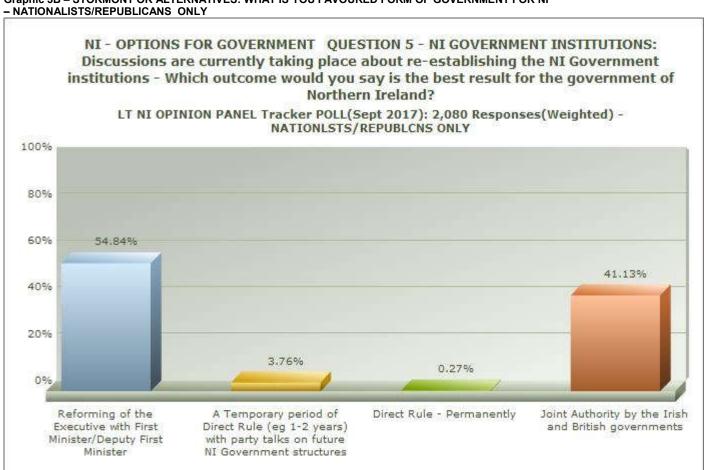
Graphic 5B - STORMONT OR ALTERNATIVES: WHAT IS YOU FAVOURED FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR NI

A Temporary period of

Direct Rule (eg 1-2 years)

with party talks on future

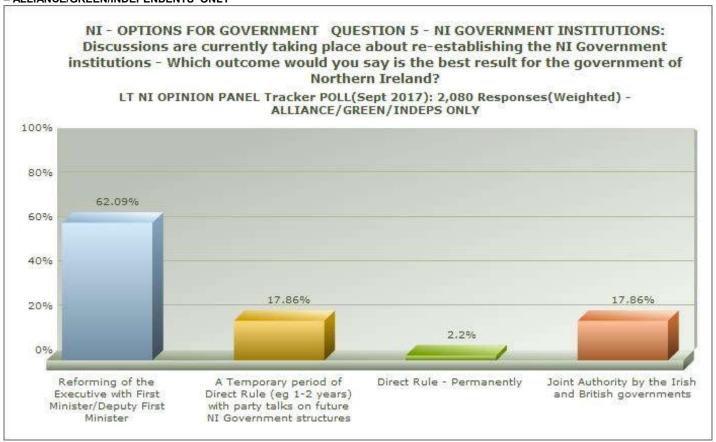
NI Government structures







Graphic 5C – STORMONT OR ALTERNATIVES: WHAT IS YOU FAVOURED FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR NI – ALLIANCE/GREEN/INDEPENDENTS ONLY



STORMONT, DIRECT RULE, JOINT AUTHORITY - NOTES

- We can see that there is still a majority (slight) in favour of restoring the Stormont Executive and Stormont institutions – this majority has dropped since our last poll re. this issue. However, there are key differences between Unionists, Nationalists, and Alliance/Green/Independents groups. Unionists are much more in favour of a period of Direct Rule i.e. 37% of Unionists favour this option, compared to only 4% of Nationalists/Republicans – with 41% of Nationalists/Republicans favouring 'Joint Authority' between the British and Irish governments. It's noteworthy that all the political demographic groups have a majority favouring reconstituting the Stormont Executive, except now the Unionists – of whom only 45% favour this option. The support for some sort of Direct Rule, or Joint Authority, has grown by several % points since our last poll re. this issue. Also, support for reconstituting the Stormont Executive has declined across all groups.





MLA REMUNERATION

Graphic 6 - MLA REMUNERATION AT STORMONT: SHOULD IT BE STOPPED IF STORMONT FALLS? - TOTAL NI RESULTS

NI - MLA REMUNERATION QUESTION 6 - NI GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS - MLA REMUNERATION: If the current NI political discussions fail and the UK Government implement 'Direct Rule' - What is your view as to what should happen regarding the remuneration of the members of the NI Assembly (MLAs)?

LT NI OPINION PANEL Tracker POLL(Sept 2017): 2,080 Responses(Weighted) - TOTAL RESULTS
NI-WIDE

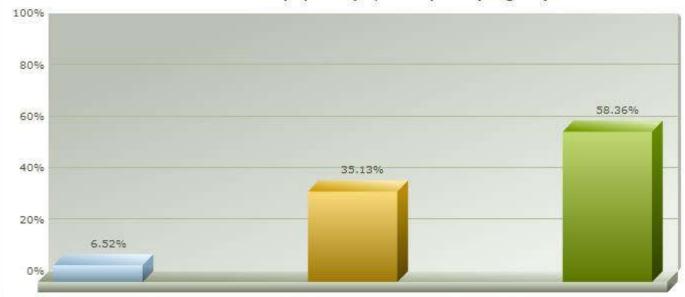


MLAs - Salaries, benefits, and office allowances should continue as now at their full level MLAs - Salaries, benefits, and office allowances should be reduced to a lower level eg 50% MLAs - Salaries, benefits, and offi allowances should be terminated completely and immediately

Graphic 6A - MLA REMUNERATION AT STORMONT: SHOULD IT BE STOPPED IF STORMONT FALLS? - UNIONISTS ONLY

NI - MLA REMUNERATION QUESTION 6 - NI GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS - MLA REMUNERATION: If the current NI political discussions fail and the UK Government implement 'Direct Rule' - What is your view as to what should happen regarding the remuneration of the members of the NI Assembly (MLAs)?

LT NI OPINION PANEL Tracker POLL(Sept 2017): 2,080 Responses(Weighted) - UNIONISTS ONLY



MLAs - Salaries, benefits, and office allowances should continue as now at their full level MLAs - Salaries, benefits, and office allowances should be reduced to a lower level eg 50% MLAs - Salaries, benefits, and offi allowances should be terminated completely and immediately





Graphic 6B – MLA REMUNERATION AT STORMONT: SHOULD IT BE STOPPED IF STORMONT FALLS? – NATIONALISTS/REPUBLICANS ONLY

NI - MLA REMUNERATION QUESTION 6 - NI GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS - MLA REMUNERATION: If the current NI political discussions fail and the UK Government implement 'Direct Rule' - What is your view as to what should happen regarding the remuneration of the members of the NI Assembly (MLAs)?

LT NI OPINION PANEL Tracker POLL(Sept 2017): 2,080 Responses(Weighted) - NATIONLSTS/REPUBLCNS ONLY

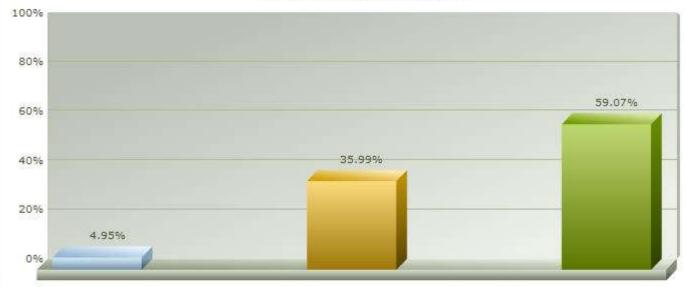


MLAs - Salaries, benefits, and office allowances should continue as now at their full level MLAs - Salaries, benefits, and office allowances should be reduced to a lower level eg 50% MLAs - Salaries, benefits, and offi allowances should be terminated completely and immediately

Graphic 6C – MLA REMUNERATION AT STORMONT: SHOULD IT BE STOPPED IF STORMONT FALLS? – ALLIANCE/GREEN/INDEPENDENTS ONLY

NI - MLA REMUNERATION QUESTION 6 - NI GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS - MLA REMUNERATION: If the current NI political discussions fail and the UK Government implement 'Direct Rule' - What is your view as to what should happen regarding the remuneration of the members of the NI Assembly (MLAs)?

LT NI OPINION PANEL Tracker POLL(Sept 2017): 2,080 Responses(Weighted) - ALLIANCE/GREEN/INDEPS ONLY



MLAs - Salaries, benefits, and office allowances should continue as now at their full level MLAs - Salaries, benefits, and office allowances should be reduced to a lower level eg 50%

MLAs - Salaries, benefits, and offi allowances should be terminated completely and immediately





MLA SALARIES/ALLOWANCES - NOTES

- MLA salaries etc.: The overall NI results show that a small majority in NI would want the MLA salaries etc. stopped immediately if Direct rule is/was implemented i.e. 55%. But it is a narrow majority, and there is support for just dropping the salaries to a lower level. However, interestingly, Nationalists/Republicans are a bit 'softer' on this issue i.e. 'only' 44% of Nationalists/Republicans want all MLA salaries (and NB office allowances) stopped immediately. Unionists are 'harder' on this issue with 58.5% wanting MLA salaries/office allowances stopped immediately. Although, yes, there is also a section of Unionists who would be OK with the salaries say being dropped to a lower level. Taking everything into account, if there is 'Direct Rule', then the MLAs would be well advised (particularly on the Unionist side) to voluntarily offer to drop their salaries to a lower level – this would probably (just) have enough support on the ground for the public to accept this, and to not create any bad publicity.

NEXT LT NI 'TRACKER' POLL

THE NEXT LUCIDTALK NI-WIDE 'TRACKER' POLL WITH OUR NOW 10,000 MEMBER NORTHERN IRELAND (NI) REPRESENTATIVE ONLINE NI OPINION PANEL IS SCHEDULED FOR 20TH TO 23RD OCTOBER 2017 - COVERING: NI Border Poll, NI Border issues, EU, and Brexit issues.

Full results will be published from 25th October.

Want to join the LT NI Opinion Panel and take part? - then go to: http://surveys.lucidtalk.co.uk/s/LTNIOpPnI/