

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
2013

Government and Politics

Assessment Unit AS 1

The Government and
Politics of Northern Ireland

[AQ111]

TUESDAY 4 JUNE, MORNING

MV18

TIME

1 hour 15 minutes, plus your additional time allowance.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.

Study the source provided and answer questions **1** and **2** and either **3(a)** or **3(b)**.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 50.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in questions **2** and **3**.

Figures in brackets printed at the end of each question indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

You are advised to take account of the marks for each question in allocating the available examination time.

You are advised to study the source before attempting to answer questions **1** and **2**, and to refer to the source in your answers to these questions.

Study the source below and answer the questions that follow:

Source

The Alliance Party will reject DUP and Sinn Féin proposals to abolish the Department of Employment and Learning. The Party may pull out of the Executive and go into opposition if it doesn't get a satisfactory outcome. Alliance Party leader, David Ford conceded that "given their numbers the DUP and Sinn Féin can push nearly anything they want through the Assembly".

Adapted from: Belfast Telegraph 14 January 2012

- 1 With reference to the Source and any other relevant material you have studied, explain **two** areas of disagreement within the Executive Committee. [8]

- 2 With reference to the Source and any other relevant material you have studied, explain how the DUP and Sinn Féin are able to dominate the Assembly and Executive. [16]

- 3 **Either**
 - (a) Assess the view that the differences between the DUP and Sinn Féin are as wide as ever. [26]

Or

- (b) Assess the view that the unionist/nationalist division is becoming less significant in Northern Ireland politics. [26]

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