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<b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b>
<b>INTERVIEWER</b>
<b>DATE</b>
<b>Q. NO</b> [   ] [   ] [   ] [   ] (1-4)

## THE FUTURE OF THE STORMONT TALKS

Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is ..... from MRNI Ltd. We are currently undertaking a survey as part of research being conducted at Queens University and wondered if you would take a few minutes to answer some questions?

The survey presents a selection of issues regarding the future of the Stormont Talks. For most questions several different options are available for each issue. Could you please indicate which ones you would consider to be **‘Desirable’, ‘Acceptable’, Tolerable’ or ‘Unacceptable’**. For the purposes of this poll ‘desirable’ “acceptable”, “tolerable” and “Unacceptable” mean:

### SHOWCARD 1

**Desirable** - This may not be exactly what you want but this option, or something very similar to it, is a good idea and should be put into practice.

**Acceptable** - This option is not what you would consider ‘desirable’ if you were given a choice but you could certainly live with it.

**Tolerable** - This option is not what you want. But, as part of a lasting settlement for Northern Ireland, you would be willing to put up with it.

**Unacceptable** - This option is completely unacceptable under any circumstances. You would not accept it, even as part of a lasting settlement.

**Please note that you can use each of these terms as many times as you wish in each question. Also note that any reference to ‘The Parties’ relates to those elected to the Stormont Talks.**

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*DATE RECEIVED IN OFFICE*.....

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*DATE*  
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*DATE* .....

## 1. Getting to a Settlement

Here are some options under which all 'The Parties' should be prepared to talk to each other with a view to increasing opportunities for reaching a settlement. Please indicate which ones you consider to be 'Desirable', 'Acceptable', 'Tolerable' or 'Unacceptable'.

### SHOWCARD 2

All the parties should be prepared to talk to each other .....

All NI	Desirable	Acceptable	Tolerable	Unacceptable
<b>Even if the cease-fires do not hold.</b>	25	19	14	42
<b>So long as the cease-fires hold.</b>	34	31	23	12
<b>So long as the cease-fires hold and there is also some decommissioning.</b>	27	42	18	13
<b>Only after decommissioning has been completed.</b>	33	20	15	32

## 2. Parties Leaving the Talks

This question relates to what should be done in the event of certain parties leaving the Talks before their completion.

### SHOWCARD 3

All NI	Desirable	Acceptable	Tolerable	Unacceptable
<b>If any parties leave the Talks</b> - The remaining parties, whoever they are, should continue with their negotiations and try to conclude a settlement that can be placed before the people of Northern Ireland in a referendum.	23	28	22	27
<b>If Sinn Féin leave the Talks</b> - The remaining parties, whoever they are, should continue with their negotiations and try to conclude a settlement that can be placed before the people of Northern Ireland in a referendum.	30	26	19	25
<b>If the remaining Unionists leave the Talks</b> - The other remaining parties, whoever they are, should continue with their negotiations and try to conclude a settlement that can be placed before the people of Northern Ireland in a referendum.	15	18	20	47
<b>If any of the main parties leave the Talks</b> - Then the Talks should be stopped.	20	16	19	45

### 3. Talks failing

This next question relates to what should be done in the event of the Talks failing.

#### SHOWCARD 4

All NI	Desirable	Acceptable	Tolerable	Unacceptable
<b>Referendum next May</b> - If the Talks do not produce an agreement by the end of next May the two governments should place a settlement package before the people of Northern Ireland in a referendum.	33	41	17	9
<b>Referendum if Talks collapse</b> - In the event of the Talks collapsing the two governments should place a settlement package before the people of Northern Ireland in a referendum.	22	46	20	12
<b>Impose settlement if Talks collapse</b> - In the event of the Talks collapsing the two governments should impose a settlement package on the people of Northern Ireland.	4	12	25	59
<b>No referendum</b> - In the event of the Talks collapsing the British government should not hold a referendum but should simply try to govern Northern Ireland.	6	9	19	66

### 4. The Framework Document

This question looks at the role of the Framework Document in terms of a final settlement.

#### SHOWCARD 5

All NI	Desirable	Acceptable	Tolerable	Unacceptable
<b>Accept the Framework Document</b> - as a basis for a final settlement on the future of Northern Ireland.	17	29	27	27
<b>Negotiate the Framework Document</b> - All the parties should negotiate the Framework Document and try to reach an agreement on what they want to keep, change or add.	31	31	25	13
<b>Reject the Framework Document</b> - as a basis for a final settlement on the future of Northern Ireland.	9	12	22	57

## 5. An alternative to the Talks

Here we look at some possible alternatives to the Talks process.

### SHOWCARD 6

All NI	Desirable	Acceptable	Tolerable	Unacceptable
<b>Stop all negotiations and govern</b> - The British government should bring an end to the current Talks process and simply try to govern Northern Ireland.	12	23	17	48
<b>Stop all negotiations and introduce devolution</b> - The British government should bring an end to the current Talks process and introduce devolved government to Northern Ireland similar to the proposals for Scotland and Wales.	12	15	18	55

## 6. The Constitution of the Republic of Ireland

The Constitution of the Republic of Ireland makes a claim on the territory of Northern Ireland in Articles 2 and 3. The Republic of Ireland have said they are willing to introduce and support appropriate changes to their constitution to address this issue as part of an agreement reached at the Stormont Talks. Please indicate which of the options you consider to be 'Desirable', 'Acceptable', 'Tolerable' or 'Unacceptable'.

### SHOWCARD 7

All NI	Desirable	Acceptable	Tolerable	Unacceptable
<b>Keep the Talks going</b> - Do not delay the Talks, let reform of the Republic of Ireland's Constitution be dealt with at the same time as all the other issues that must be part of an over all settlement.	48	29	13	10
<b>Delay the Talks</b> - Until the reform of the Republic of Ireland's Constitution has been dealt with.	11	14	20	55

## 7. Consent of the people in a referendum

**7A.** The terms of a settlement for the political future of Northern Ireland must receive consent in a referendum. Do you want to be given an opportunity to vote on the terms of a settlement in a referendum?

<b>Yes</b>	94
<b>No</b>	6

**7B.** A referendum can be undertaken in a number of different ways. Please indicate which options for endorsing the terms of a settlement you consider to be 'Desirable', 'Acceptable', 'Tolerable' or 'Unacceptable'.

### SHOWCARD 8

<b>All NI</b>	Desirable	Acceptable	Tolerable	Unacceptable
<b>Only Northern Ireland</b> - A referendum in Northern Ireland only.	52	20	12	16
<b>Both North and South</b> - Separate but concurrent referenda in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.	13	26	13	48
<b>Island of Ireland</b> - A single referendum in the island of Ireland as a whole.	16	16	12	56
<b>UK - GB and NI</b> - A single referendum in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as a whole.	10	19	22	49

**7C.** With regard to the people of Northern Ireland how would you consider the following options

### SHOWCARD 9

<b>All NI</b>	Desirable	Acceptable	Tolerable	Unacceptable
<b>Simple majority</b> - A simple majority of the people of Northern Ireland - More than 50%.	29	32	21	18
<b>Weighted majority</b> - A larger majority of the people of Northern Ireland - Approximately 70%.	18	31	30	21
<b>A majority from both communities</b> - A separate majority of the people from each of the two main communities in Northern Ireland - More than 50% from each community.	29	29	17	25

## 8. Government and the Peace Process

How much do you think the handling of the peace process by the current government favours the:

	A lot	A little	No Strong Views	Not very much	Not at all
<b>Republicans</b>	36	24	28	9	3
<b>Nationalists</b>	33	28	28	9	2
<b>Unionists</b>	12	19	33	24	12
<b>Loyalists</b>	10	17	36	23	14
<b>Political Party you support</b>	3	17	36	27	17

## 9. In today's circumstances do you want the political party you support to stay in the Talks?

<b>Yes</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>8</b>

## 10. Political Parties

Which ONE of these Northern Ireland political parties do you support?

**SHOW CARD TEN**

<b>DUP</b>	<b>Democratic Unionist Party</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>UK Unionists</b>	<b>United Kingdom Unionist Party</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>UUP</b>	<b>Ulster Unionist Party</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>UDP</b>	<b>Ulster Democratic Party</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>PUP</b>	<b>Progressive Unionist Party</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Alliance</b>	<b>Alliance Party</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Women's Coalition</b>	<b>N.I. Women's Coalition Party</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Labour (NI)</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>SDLP</b>	<b>Social Democratic Labour Party</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>SF</b>	<b>Sinn Fein</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Other (Specify)</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>Refused</b>		<b>9</b>

**11. Demographics**

**A** May I now ask into which of the following age ranges you may be placed.

16 - 24	16
25 - 34	21
25 - 44	18

45 - 54	15
55 - 64	12
65+	18

**B** Record respondents gender.

MALE	48
FEMALE	52

**C** Could you please tell me the occupation of your head of household.

_____	AB	14
	C1	25
	C2	23
	DE	38

**D** Could you please tell me which of the following best describes your religion?  
(Please remember that all responses are totally CONFIDENTIAL).

Protestant	51
Catholic	41
Other	2
Refused	6

NAME	
ADDRESS	
POSTCODE	
TEL NO.	

Thank respondent for their time and give them a thank you note.

*I certify that this survey has been carried out in accordance with your instructions and within the MRS Code of Conduct.*

Interviewer name .....

Date .....

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