



Rewarding Learning

**ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
January 2012**

Government and Politics

Assessment Unit AS 1

**The Government and
Politics of Northern Ireland**

[AQ111]

FRIDAY 13 JANUARY, AFTERNOON



TIME

1 hour 15 minutes.

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 down the right-hand side of the page 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.

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Study the source below and answer the questions that follow:

Source

The DUP has been accused of planning to kill off a proposal to ban Assembly Members from double-jobbing – holding two elected posts at the same time. A Private Members Bill banning double-jobbing has been steered through the Assembly by independent MLA Dawn Purvis and is awaiting final passage. She predicted the DUP would halt it by making it a “Petition of Concern”, meaning cross community support in the Assembly would be required. The DUP’s strength in the Assembly means the Bill would not get the necessary level of unionist support.

Adapted from article: © ‘DUP aims to scupper double-job reforms’ by David Gordon, Belfast Telegraph, 16 November 2010

- 1 With reference to the Source and any other relevant material you have studied, explain **two** ways in which MLAs can influence legislation. [8]
- 2 With reference to the Source and any other relevant material you have studied, explain how the Executive controls legislation in the Assembly. [16]
- 3 **Either**
- (a) Assess the view that, since 2007, politics in Northern Ireland is increasingly dominated by two political parties. [26]
- Or**
- (b) Assess the view that Sinn Fein has abandoned many of its traditional policies. [26]

THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER

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