

PRESS STATEMENT

May 1, 1998 NO EMBARGO

NI Women's Coalition welcomes councils' endorsement of Stormont Agreement

The Women's Coalition welcomes the decisions of Ards Borough and other local Councils to support the multi-party Agreement.

"We want to congratulate these councils. They have made courageous and principled decisions which show a determination to build a peaceful future," said Kate Fearon, representing the Women's Coalition in Newry.

It is especially significant that four Unionist controlled councils have decided to back the Agreement, Ms. Fearon added.

"We believe that these council decisions express the opinion of the majority of unionists. It is time the anti-Agreement Unionist leaders started listening to their constituents."

"We also welcome the East Londonderry Constituency Association statement in favour of the Agreement."

"We believe they are right when they say their MP is out of touch with the thinking of people in the area," she said.

"The Women's Coalition is wholeheartedly supporting the 'Yes' campaign. We are absolutely delighted to see so many other groups coming out and saying that they know this Agreement is the way forward."

"The fact that groups and individuals are prepared to say 'Yes' even if they have reservations about certain articles is especially welcome. It shows a determination to grasp the opportunity that is before us," Ms. Fearon concluded.

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