

HEADS OF AGREEMENT

- a Northern Ireland Assembly to administer the 6 Northern Ireland departments; elected through proportional representation and discharging its functions through Committees formed in proportion to Assembly party strengths;
- Assembly to have administrative and, probably, legislative powers, extent of both to be defined;
- East-West structures including the British and Irish Governments and the Northern Ireland administration, and representatives of devolved institutions in England, Scotland and Wales: a Council of these Islands;
- North-South structures, with at least some functions covering the island as a whole and with significant purposes and powers, dependent on and accountable to the institution of government in Northern Ireland on the one hand and the Irish Government on the other;
- Standing Intergovernmental machinery (between the Irish and British Governments) enabling both Governments to express views, resolve differences and develop co-operation on a wide range of issues, including Northern Ireland;
- Constitutional change, based on the consent principle and including changes to Articles 2 and 3 of the Irish Constitution and to British legislation;
- provisions to safeguard the rights of both countries and address equality and justice issues.