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published: 12 September 2019 Last updated: 4 May 2022 Overview The Northern Ireland

Assembly represents the people of Northern Ireland. It has the power to make

decisions and pass laws in certain areas, known as devolved matters. This includes

areas such as education economic development, the environment and health. The UK

Parliament makes decisions on reserved matters, such as broadcasting and import and

export laws, and could transfer responsibility for these to the Northern Ireland

Assembly. Areas such as defence and taxation are excepted matters. The UK Parliament

is responsible for excepted matters. There are 90 elected Members of the Legislative

Assembly (MLAs). Each of Northern Ireland's 18 constituencies has five MLAs to

represent it. Who can vote in these elections Voting in these elections Northern

Ireland Assembly elections usually take place every five years. Northern Ireland

Assembly elections use the Single Transferable Vote system. The ballot paper will

list the candidates for your constituency. You use numbers to rank these candidates

in order of preference. You can rank as many or as few candidates as you want to.

Find your candidates Looking for the candidates standing in your area? Enter your

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