# Jamie Bryson and Sinn Féin accused of conspiring to manipulate NAMA trial testimony



In a shocking revelation at the ongoing trial related to the National Asset Management Agency (NAMA), communication between loyalist activist Jamie Bryson and members of Sinn Féin has emerged, suggesting a deeply troubling effort to manipulate testimony amid an already chaotic political climate. Bryson’s sarcastic remark on social media about his “cooperation” with Sinn Féin, stating, “who would ever have thought it, me and SF working together as the DUP squirm! Unreal!” exemplifies the disarray and opportunism prevalent in this political environment.

Bryson faces a daunting legal battle alongside Thomas Gerard O’Hara and former Sinn Féin MLA Daithí McKay, all charged with conspiring to commit misconduct in public office. This case stems from a 2015 investigation aimed at uncovering malfeasance in public asset allocations managed by NAMA. During those hearings, Bryson implicated significant political figures, including then-First Minister Peter Robinson, hinting at their potential financial gains from NAMA dealings.

The trial now hinges on explosive allegations that Bryson's testimony was meticulously orchestrated in conjunction with Sinn Féin members, raising grave concerns about political integrity. The Crown claims that their exchanges were designed not merely to inform but to create a spectacle aimed at politically undermining Robinson. Such collusion unveils a disturbing network of loyalties that could erode the very foundation of public trust in the inquiry process.

As the jury listens intently, media attention has intensified, exposing alarming dynamics among Northern Ireland’s political factions. This fallout has already cost McKay his position, resulting from an evident breach of ethical standards that raises serious doubts about the nature of political cooperation. Despite these accusations, Sinn Féin claims its commitment to transparency, insisting it had no prior knowledge of any alleged misconduct. Carál Ní Chuilín, a Sinn Féin spokesperson, expressed unwavering confidence that investigations will exonerate the party, yet critics remain skeptical.

The ongoing tension between the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) and Sinn Féin has reached a boiling point, as the DUP has called for a police investigation, emphasizing the necessity of safeguarding inquiry integrity. This narrative of political maneuvering not only threatens individual reputations but could lead to a broader inquiry into governance practices in Northern Ireland.

As court proceedings progress, the political fallout from these revelations is set to ripple far beyond the courtroom. With the stakes so high, the implications for party politics are profound, especially in a region still grappling with its complex past. What this indicates for the future of governance in Northern Ireland is yet to be seen, but one thing is clear: the political landscape remains fraught with challenges that must not be ignored.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.irishnews.com/news/northern-ireland/nama-trial-hears-jamie-bryson-joke-about-me-and-sinn-fein-working-togetherunreal-4TKPTJNW2VB2NNQOYUIQQYOFRI/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.irishnews.com/news/northern-ireland/nama-trial-hears-jamie-bryson-joke-about-me-and-sinn-fein-working-togetherunreal-4TKPTJNW2VB2NNQOYUIQQYOFRI/> - The Irish News reports on the NAMA trial where messages between Jamie Bryson and Sinn Féin members were presented in court. Bryson allegedly joked about collaborating with Sinn Féin, stating, 'me and SF working together as the DUP squirm! Unreal!' The trial involves charges against Bryson, Thomas Gerard O'Hara, and Daithí McKay related to the manipulation of evidence during a 2015 Assembly Committee meeting investigating NAMA's handling of property loans. All three defendants have denied the charges.
3. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-37119354> - BBC News covers the resignation of Sinn Féin MLA Daithí McKay amid allegations of 'coaching' a witness, Jamie Bryson, before a Stormont inquiry into the NAMA property loan sale. Leaked Twitter messages between McKay, Bryson, and Sinn Féin member Thomas O'Hara were presented in court, leading to McKay's resignation and apology. Sinn Féin's Carál Ní Chuilín stated the party would cooperate fully with any inquiry into the matter. ([bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-37119354?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.itv.com/news/utv/2023-10-10/former-sinn-fin-mla-denies-misconduct-in-public-office> - ITV News reports on former Sinn Féin MLA Daithí McKay's formal denial of misconduct in public office during a court appearance. McKay, along with co-accused Thomas Gerard O'Hara, pleaded not guilty to conspiring to commit misconduct between September 1 and 24, 2015. The charges relate to alleged manipulation of evidence during a Stormont Committee meeting investigating NAMA's handling of property loans. The trial is set to begin on June 3, 2024. ([itv.com](https://www.itv.com/news/utv/2023-10-10/former-sinn-fin-mla-denies-misconduct-in-public-office?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/sinn-fein-mla-resigns-amid-robinson-collusion-claims-1.2760439> - The Irish Times reports on Sinn Féin MLA Daithí McKay's resignation amid allegations of collusion with Jamie Bryson during a Stormont inquiry into the NAMA property loan sale. Leaked Twitter messages suggest McKay and another Sinn Féin member advised Bryson on his testimony, leading to McKay's resignation and suspension from the party. Sinn Féin stated it would cooperate fully with any inquiry into the matter. ([irishtimes.com](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/sinn-fein-mla-resigns-amid-robinson-collusion-claims-1.2760439?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-37126876> - BBC News reports on Sinn Féin's response to allegations that one of its assembly members, Daithí McKay, coached a witness, Jamie Bryson, before a Stormont inquiry into the NAMA property loan sale. Sinn Féin stated it would cooperate fully with any inquiry into the matter, with Carál Ní Chuilín expressing confidence that the facts would confirm the party's lack of knowledge or involvement in the events. ([bbc.co.uk](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-37126876?utm_source=openai))
7. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-37116113> - BBC News reports on the Democratic Unionist Party's (DUP) call for a police investigation into allegations that Sinn Féin 'coached' loyalist blogger Jamie Bryson before he gave evidence to a Stormont inquiry into the NAMA property loan sale. The DUP has made a formal complaint to Stormont's watchdog, citing concerns over the integrity of the inquiry process. ([bbc.com](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-37116113?utm_source=openai))