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Paterson Meets Ballymurphy Families

THURSDAY 7 OCTOBER 2010

Paterson Meets Ballymurphy Families

Secretary of State, Owen Paterson MP has encouraged the families of those killed in Ballymurphy in August 1971 to work with the Historical Enquiries Team as its investigation continues.

Speaking after meeting the Ballymurphy families at Stormont House today (Thursday 7 October), Mr Paterson said:

“The stories the families told were powerful and moving. I listened to them with Minister of State, Hugo Swire and we both have the most profound sympathy for their loss and grief.

“The HET is completely independent of central Government and reports to the Chief Constable.

“I urged the families to co-operate with the investigation into these tragic deaths.”

The Secretary of State said that finding a way to deal with the past that will provide a form of closure and healing is hugely important but is a sensitive, contentious and difficult task.

Mr Paterson continued:

“As was clear when we published the responses to the consultation on the Eames/Bradley Report, there is currently no consensus on how to deal with the past.

“That does not mean that we will stop looking for a way to build one.

“Over the coming months, along with Hugo Swire, I will be meeting with a range of individuals, groups and political parties to see if we can find a way forward that is broadly acceptable across Northern Ireland .

“If we can do that it will be a significant step towards building the kind of shared future that all of us with the interests of Northern Ireland at heart want to see.”

News Releases

Paterson Condemns Attack on Dolores Kelly

FRIDAY 15 APRIL 2011

PATERSON ATTENDS ROYAL IRISH REGIMENT HOMECOMING EVENTS IN MARKET DRAYTON AND SHREWSBURY

TUESDAY 12 APRIL 2011

Heed the Words of Cardinal Brady - Paterson

WEDNESDAY 6 APRIL 2011

Written Ministerial Statement - Publication of the Report of the Rosemary Nelson Inquiry

TUESDAY 5 APRIL 2011

Written Ministerial Statement - Two Year Extension to Non Jury Trial System

TUESDAY 5 APRIL 2011

Owen Paterson - Oral Statement on the Murder of Police Constable Ronan Kerr

MONDAY 4 APRIL 2011