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PSNI WILL BE CLOSELY SCRUTINISED ON SUNDAY: DUP MLA

Robin Newton, East Belfast DUP MLA has said that the PSNI's handling of the forthcoming armed forces homecoming parade will be closely scrutinised. The DUP MLA said it was regrettable that the Parades Commission had opted to place the police in such a difficult position, but added that no-one should be allowed to prevent the parade being a family day out. Robin Newton said:

"The disgraceful decision of the Parades Commission to cravenly acquiesce to Sinn Fein's inflammatory and offensive protest raises significant challenges for the police. It is regrettable that the Parades Commission should have placed them in such a position. By their recent outrageous decision the commission has managed to confirm just how right the DUP is about ensuring they are done away with once and for all.

The police also have a responsibility to ensure that the Sinn Fein protest is kept well back from the parade and is contained. Those bigoted individuals who plan to attempt to besmirch our city with their pro-Taleban demonstration must not be allowed to interrupt the peaceful enjoyment which I know thousands of people will experience on Sunday. On this vital front, the PSNI will be closely scrutinised."

Mr. Newton also addressed the issue of transport in and out of Belfast city centre:



"Many of my constituents want to be present at a safe family day out. However, they need to know they can get into and out of the city safely by car or by public transport. To this end Translink need to provide adequate buses for those who wish to attend the event and the police needs to ensure the free movement of traffic."

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