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KELLY - SERIOUS CONCERNS AROUND INQUIRIES

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SDLP Policing Board member Dolores Kelly MLA has said that serious questions remain to be answered around the ongoing delays in the Billy Wright murder inquiry. Speaking as the inquiry expressed its dissatisfaction with documents provided by the PSNI Mrs Kelly stated:

“The SDLP has consistently raised concerns about the handling of the Wright Inquiry and other inquiries at both the Policing Board and directly with Assistant Chief Constable Finlay. The levels of mismanagement of intelligence material, by the RUC, the Prison authorities, and British security services, were negligent at best. There seems to have been systematic failure in the recording and storing of crucial material. If this was deliberate or otherwise those responsible must be held to account. How can we hope to get to the truth of what happened if people are hiding evidence, destroying evidence, or simply not telling what they know? There must now be full disclosure of all files pertaining to this case and full cooperation with Lord MacLean and his team.

We need to have clarity on all issues around dealing with the past, no matter how difficult this may be. We need to ensure that we can leave the past behind on a moral basis so that the community can move forward with confidence and hope. There is an onus on the police and the security services to provide this clarity. The SDLP will continue to pursue this matter at all levels, through the Policing Board and in support of Lord MacLean's inquiry team.”

ENDS

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