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Sinn Féin comment on new Police Ombudsman

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Mr Maskey said:

"Nuala O'Loan has during her time as Ombudsman not shied away from issues like collusion. She was at times faced with a lack of co-operation from both serving and former officers. People will expect the new incumbent to show similar courage in dealing with these sorts of difficult issues particularly given the recent failure of the British government to face up to these matters.

"The office of the Police Ombudsman holds a vital place in building public confidence in the new policing dispensation particularly within the nationalist and republican community which has had to endure bad policing practice for generations.

"Al Hutchinson has obviously built up a deep knowledge of the policing problems which still exist here during his time as Oversight Commissioner. I look forward to working with him in his new role and will be seeking an early meeting with him to discus his new position."

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