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ATTWOOD QUESTIONS FIRST MINISTER ON VICTIMS COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENT

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SDLP West Belfast MLA Alex Attwood has expressed deep concern that the Office of the First and Deputy First Minister did not bring the announcement to re-advertise for the post of a Victims Commissioner to the floor of the Assembly. Speaking after raising the matter on the floor of the Assembly Mr Attwood stated:

“It is of great concern that the First Minister failed to take the earliest opportunity to explain the decision of the Office of First and Deputy First Minister on the appointment of a Victims Commissioner during Question Time. A question asked by me created the opportunity – the First Minister did not reply.

The requirements of victims and survivors should be paramount. Doubts over many months about the appointment of a victim’s commissioner have now been compounded by the decision to re-advertise the post.

Moreover, the failure of the Office of the First and Deputy First Minister to make a statement to the house, answer questions and subject the decision to proper oversight is not what an issue of public interest needs. This should get rectified without delay.”

ENDS

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