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Sinn Féin representatives to accompany Loughinisland families to Stormont meeting with NIO Minister Paul Goggins

Published: 5 January, 2007

South Down MLA Caitríona Ruane and Ballynahinch Councillor Mickey Coogan are to accompany family members who were bereaved in the Loughinisland massacre to Stormont on Monday to meet with Paul Goggins MP. They will be there to present the submissions on priorities relating to victims and survivors of the 1994 atrocity and to raise matters relevant to the case in more detail.

Describing the meeting as "another stepping stone in the families' quest to find the truth," Ms Ruane said:

"The families are determined to unearth the truth about what happened when their loved ones were shot in the Height's Bar in Loughinisland 12 years ago. Sinn Féin will support them in their quest for truth and justice.

"In the years that have passed since that awful day, the families have patiently waited for answers and have behaved in the most courageous and dignified way imaginable. Their determination to raise serious questions about the murders and specifically the subsequent investigation into it is a credit to them.

"From 1994 to 2004 there was little or no information or updates from the RUC into the investigation and despite strong forensic leads and intelligence, nobody has ever been charged with this atrocity.

"Monday's meetings will provide an opportunity for the families to raise very important matters relevant to their case to Paul Goggins, the Direct Rule Minister responsible for Justice here in the north.

"Sinn Féin will continue to support the families of those murdered at Loughinisland in their campaign for the truth about what happened on that night 12 years ago. The British government need to realise that issue will not go away. The killings at Loughinisland had a deep impact on people across

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