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praise for hunger striker Sands prompts complaint to

Minister for Education Catriona Ruane said Sands had created conditions for a better future

photograph: The Irish Times

Editor

ide to the PSNI after the Minister for Education in the North praised IRA hunger striker Bobby Sands during a children.

oke approvingly last week of Bobby Sands at a prize-giving ceremony at St Colm's High School in Twinbrook, t.

ll on Saturday, alleged the Minister was in breach of a law on glorifying terrorism.

ould not comment on individual cases but confirmed that such a complaint had been received at Antrim police

is at an early stage and it has not been established if any offence has been committed," the spokesman

ey should be thankful that Sands, who died on hunger strike in 1981, created the conditions so that they could

e was saddened that the film *The Wind That Shakes the Barley*, about the War of Independence and the Civil

ber Basil McCrea said First Minister Peter Robinson and Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness should

me that an Education Minister of the Northern Ireland Executive stood in front of schoolchildren and lauded a
so incredibly disturbing that the Education Minister revealed frightening authoritarian tendencies by attacking
film that gave a historically inaccurate account of the Civil War," said Mr McCrea.

why education policy is in a complete shambles," he added.

ducation would not comment on the matter and directed questions to Sinn Féin.

it would have been totally inappropriate were Ms Ruane not to talk about Bobby Sands considering that he

he PSNI the spokesman said: "This is total nonsense. Bobby Sands is an iconic figure who is respected

re important things to consider when people are being robbed, when children are being stabbed on the
attacked in their homes," the Sinn Féin spokesman said.

s in the print edition of the Irish Times

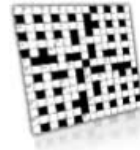
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