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Cost of Inquires into past result of British cover-up policy

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Responding to a report from the British NI Affairs Committee on the cost of holding investigations into killings during the conflict, Sinn Féin Policing Board member Martina Anderson said that the monetary cost did not come directly from the inquiries themselves but from the British State policy of concealment, cover-up and suppression of the truth.

Ms Anderson said:

"While no nationalist or republican puts much credibility on anything said by the NI Affairs Committee it would serve these MPs better if they called on the British State to come clean on its role in the conflict rather than focus on one element of the operation of the HET.

"It is not inquiries themselves into the past which cost money it is the British State policy of concealment and cover-up. If the British government came clean and told the truth about its involvement in many of these activities then many families would find closure.

"However what we have witnessed with the British approach to Bloody Sunday and the continuing efforts to frustrate inquiries into the murders of Pat Finucane, Rosemary Nelson and Robert Hamill is a deliberate attempt to suppress the truth. The PSNI continue to deliberately withhold information from a series of inquests into disputed killings.

"Sinn Féin have brought forward detailed proposals for a victim led process of truth recovery to deal with issues arising from the conflict. Central to any process however is the British State ending the lie that they were innocent protagonists in this conflict rather than active participants involved both directly and through their surrogate gangs in many killings." ENDS

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