

# Astronomical differences in spend between Saville and Historical Enquiries Team prompts UUP MLA to ask: what kind of justice is this?

[E-mail to a friend](#) *October 6th, 2006 Michael Copeland MLA*



UUP East Belfast MLA Michael Copeland has raised the astronomical differences in spend on the Saville Inquiry compared to the spend of the Historical Enquiries Team and today asked what kind of justice is this?



The Saville Inquiry, to date, has cost £400 Million of which some £34 Million has gone on computers alone to investigate the killing of 13 people in Londonderry on 'Bloody Sunday'.

The Historical Enquiries Team – the group set up within the PSNI to investigate some 3266 unsolved cases has an equivalent total spend of some £32 Million.

In a statement Mr Copeland said,

“Victims is supposedly an issue that is high up on the government’s agenda and will doubtless form an important part of the negotiations at St Andrews.

One has to ask however how the issue can be satisfactorily resolved when we have a precedent such as the Saville Inquiry - which in crude terms and while we can never put a value on a human life – has cost almost £40 Million per person out of the 13 killed.

Compare this astronomical figure to the spend of the Historical Enquiries Team, they have £32 Million to try and investigate 3266 unsolved crimes. Again, in crude terms, this equates to some £9,000 per person.

£40 Million per person compared to £9,000 is as stark a difference as you will find anywhere.

If this government is prepared to allow such a huge discrepancy to exist, then the most natural question to be asked is what kind of justice for victims is this?”

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**M T W T F S S**

[« Sep](#)

[1](#)

[2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) 7 8

9 [10](#) [11](#) [12](#) [13](#) [14](#) 15

[16](#) [17](#) [18](#) [19](#) [20](#) 21 22

[23](#) [24](#) 25 26 27 28 29

30 31

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