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- NEWS
- SPORT
- ENTERTAINMENT

- LOCAL NEWS
- NATIONAL NEWS
- INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- YOUR STORIES

NEWS ARCHIVE

- 13:54 Cardinal slams new marriage laws
- 13:39 46,000 properties at risk of flood
- 13:24 Devlin attack : man to stand trial
- 12:08 Recession to hit NI hard
- 12:05 Nurse school damaged in fire
- 10:24 Fishermen rescued in county Donegal
- 08:07 Man in court on GBH charges
- 00:27 Batman stunt expert died as car
- 00:27 Public lack facts on community
- 00:27 Over half state schools breach
- 00:27 GPs get £100 for checks on
- 00:27 Mail pays libel damages over
- 00:27 'Costa Metallica' costs Liverpool
- 00:27 Man appears in court accused of
- 00:12 Pakistan warns US general to stop
- 00:12 'World's best golf course'
- 00:12 World losing Aids battle, minister
- 00:12 Security tight as Chinese
- 00:12 Schmidt releases piano CD to mark
- 00:12 A great week in black history?
- 00:12 UN appoints Nigerian to mediate

YESTERDAY

- 15:20 Ireland faces EC finance probe
- 11:52 Movilla students back to class
- 11:50 Man charged with rape
- 10:41 Thousands attend homecoming march
- 10:27 Fire at a Cork golf club
- 09:16 Victim Commission leaks slammed
- 08:36 Manufacturing jobs hit by slowdown
- 00:22 MPs say downturn could save
- 00:22 Report attacks 'national
- 00:22 Olympics officials accused of
- 00:22 MPs revolt over third Heathrow
- 00:22 A Kafkaesque excuse for ignorance
- 00:22 PM admits data losses may be
- 00:22 BBC signals end to big pay deals
- 00:22 Somalian rape victim, 13, stoned
- 00:22 Beijing keeps its interest - and
- 00:22 Why Rwanda holds key to ending
- 00:22 Turkish delight at German cult
- 00:22 Chinese fury at sale of plundered
- 00:22 Deripaska in Montenegro - between
- 00:22 Winning was the easy bit, Mr

YOUR COMMENTS

N Security alert at school a hoax
19 comments

E Eoghan through to next round
92 comments

S Rangers fans warned over song
5 comments

LOCAL NEWS



Leaks slammed

Monday 03 November 2008 09:16

Appointments Chief slams Victim Commission leaks

Northern Ireland's public appointments chief was told the names of the Victims Commissioners in a supermarket a fortnight before they were released.

Felicity Huston's annual report says some applicants were informed of their success via the press amid gossip and speculation.

The four-strong Victims' Commission was established earlier this year to represent survivors of the decades-long conflict.

Details of the post holders were revealed in January.

They are broadcaster Mike Nesbitt and ex-interim victims' commissioner Bertha McDougall, whose RUC Reservist husband was killed by the INLA.

The others are Patricia MacBride, whose brother was killed by the SAS and whose father died 17 months after being shot by loyalists, and Brendan McAllister of Mediation NI.

All positions are full-time and receive £65,000 a year.

Ms Huston has completed an audit report on the competition but said it would be inappropriate to publish it while a judicial review was considered.

Ms Huston has expressed her "deep disappointment" about the leaking of the information.

The Office of the First and Deputy First Minister (OFMDFM) ran the recruitment competition, although Ms Huston doesn't say where the leaks originated.

She expressed surprise that no formal complaints had been received but asked how those responsible for disclosing the information would feel if similar information about their job application was made known.

The Commissioner also highlighted a two-year wait for the OFMDFM to produce an extra member of staff for her under-pressure office.

She said there was a clear conflict in regulating the work of a department that in turn funds and sponsors the office. Even computer records are kept on an OFMDFM system.

"In a nutshell, the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments Northern Ireland NI (OCPANI) is not independent of the department it is charged with regulating," she added.

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VOTING POLL

Ballymena are switching on their Christmas lights. It's only November 4th. Do you think this is too early?

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