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DURKAN COMMENTS ON VICTIM'S ARMY PENSION BEING DENIED

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SDLP Leader and Foyle MP Mark Durkan has commented on the case of the woman from Eglinton who has been refused an army pension because she and her partner were not married when he was murdered by the Real IRA in 2002.

Mr Durkan said:

“My office was contacted by Mavis McFaul yesterday. She shared with us the letter which she received from the Services Personnel & Veterans Agency, an Executive Agency of the Ministry of Defence, refusing her application for a War Widows pension on the grounds that she was not married to the late Mr Caldwell.

“It seems clearly wrong for the system to cite such grounds for refusing a pension in these circumstances. She says that she was led to believe that she would receive this pension and that is why their response has been so hurtful.

“At her request, I will make representations to Bob Ainsworth, the Armed Forces Minister, asking for more considered treatment.”

ENDS

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