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## Omagh Inquiry Report undermines confidence in Policing Board

Published: 9 July, 2008

Commenting today on the publication of the Policing Board Report into the Omagh Bomb investigation, Sinn Féin Board member Martina Anderson said that the report lacked substance in a number of key areas, was published without reference to other outstanding reports and left many of the questions raised by the trial judge unanswered.

Ms Anderson said:

"The Policing Board are tasked with ensuring public confidence in the operation of policing structures. The judge in the Omagh bomb trial raised a number of very serious issues concerning the conduct of the investigation into the bomb and the evidence provided by a number of PSNI officers.

"The Policing Board tasked this investigating team to find answers to those questions and in doing so help restore public confidence. It is our view that the report fails to do this and has not fulfilled its terms of reference as set out by the Policing Board.

"This report has been presented despite that fact that a number of other outstanding reports remain to be completed from both the PPS and the Ombudsman which may well lead to further judicial proceedings. This report will in effect park the Omagh inquiry issue.

"The manner in which this report has been completed and published undermines public confidence in the role of the Policing Board to effectively hold the PSNI to account. That presents a significant challenge for the Board in the time ahead." ENDS

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