



English/Gaeilge



## Loughinisland case - reminder of why MI5 must be removed from policing here

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Sinn Féin Assembly member for South Down Caitriona Ruane and party Councillor Michael Cougan will accompany members of the Loughinisland families to meet with the British Security Minister Paul Goggins tomorrow afternoon in Stormont. The meeting is a latest in a series of discussions involving the families including meeting in Westminster and at the European Parliament.

Speaking today in advance of the meeting Ms Ruane said:

"Sinn Féin will continue to support the families of those murdered at Loughinisland in their campaign for the truth about what happened on that night 12 years ago. The British government need to realise that issue will not go away.

"In recent months I have accompanied the families on trips to the European Parliament and Westminster. The families are determined that their efforts to uncover the truth will intensify in the coming year.

"I have to say as the truth begins to out about the killings at Loughinisland a picture emerges which demonstrates clearly why the faceless securocrats who controlled both the murder gang on that night and the subsequent investigation by the RUC and PSNI need to be removed from policing here once and for all.

"That is why Sinn Féin made the removal of MI5 from civic policing here such a priority in the recent negotiations. The integration strategy proposed by the British government with the support of the SDLP at St. Andrews would if implemented have embedded MI5 securocrats into civic policing. Our strategy has been to remove them entirely from it." ENDS

Editors Note: The meeting between the Loughinisland families and the British

Security Minister Paul Goggins will take place at Stormont Castle at 3.15pm

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