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Ulster Unionist Party
for all of us

27th February 2009

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Objectives and Policy

Objectives

Standing up for Northern Ireland
A Competitive Economy
A Northern Ireland for Everyone
Protecting our Environment
Quality Public Services
Stronger, Safer Communities

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Entire report should be scrapped



Commenting after the Secretary of State announced that he had rejected the £12,000 payment proposals in the Eames-Bradley Report, UUP MLA Tom Elliott said:

"Whilst I welcome the fact that the Secretary of State has decided to overrule the proposal of a £12,000 payment to the immediate family of 'all victims,' I would remind people that the payment alone wasn't the source of our objection to the Eames-Bradley Report.

"There are very many other aspects of the Report we objected to, also, not least the definition of victim, the equivalency issue, the potential for an amnesty further down the line and the implication that we were all equally to blame for the existence of terrorism. The Ulster Unionist Party rejects all of those matters.

"It concerns me, now, that the Secretary of State has decided to ditch the £12,000 payment solely in order to 'save' the rest of the Report. But since the rest of the Report is riddled with suggestions and recommendations that seem to be remarkably tolerant of, and sympathetic to the views and justifications of a variety of terrorists, it seems to me that the Secretary of State should overrule the Report in its entirety.

"Perpetrating myths about the past will not help build a genuinely democratic and shared Northern Ireland. The Ulster Unionist Party is still opposed to this report.

"This also calls into question why this part of the report was leaked early - was this just a smokescreen to cover other obnoxious parts which were hidden inside the report."

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