

May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2010

**Sinn Féin supports Ballymurphy Massacre Committee**

a chairde

Thank for your recent letter asking for Sinn Féin to continue our support for your campaign

For many years, the families of the 11 people murdered and those injured in the Ballymurphy massacre have been campaigning with dignity for the truth. Throughout that time, Sinn Féin has been working in close harmony with the families in support of their demands.

As part of the families' campaign, we have corresponded with both governments in London and Dublin. We have arranged meetings for the families with the Irish government Ministers for Justice and for Foreign Affairs. We are awaiting contact from the Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs Micheal Martin about his agreement to visit the Ballymurphy district and will confirm arrangements for this visit in due course with the families.

We have also arranged a meeting for the families with the British Secretary of State for the six counties, Shaun Woodward. Sinn Féin has arranged visits for the families to the European Parliament to lobby MEPs, and has tabled questions in the Oireachtas about the families' plight.

I have also raised this matter in Washington with Senators and Congress members.

Our party has hosted delegations from the families at our party Ard Fheis in Dublin this year; continue to facilitate briefings with party and community activists throughout the country; and provided organisational support for events in the Upper Springfield to help promote the families' demands and the truth about the Ballymurphy Massacre.

We have still not received a satisfactory response from the British Government and when I met with the British Prime Minister again last month, I pressed him to meet the families with me to discuss the campaign. When the Victims Commissioners sought a meeting with the families to make overtures about deviating from their demands, Sinn Féin accompanied the families to stand by the campaign objectives set out.

In light of the families' lack of confidence in the HET, I have again asked that the British Government faces up to its responsibilities on this issue; stop obstructing and prevaricating over the truth; and agree to set up an independent, international investigation into the events in Ballymurphy in [August 1971](#).

Sinn Féin remains resolute in our support for the families of the Ballymurphy Massacre and will continue to work in conjunction with you to help you achieve what you have set out to accomplish.

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Gerry Adams, MP, MLA