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## McCrea must outline in detail UVF leader relationship

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Sinn Féin Assembly member for Mid-Ulster Francie Molloy has called on the DUP MP Willie McCrea to set out in detail the extent and nature of his relationship with loyalist murder gang leader Billy Wright. Mr Molloy's call comes after Mr McCrea admitted meeting with the then UVF leader in 1991 and 1992 at the height of Wright's sectarian murder campaign in Mid-Ulster.

Mr Molloy said:

"Shortly after Billy Wright fell out with the UVF over their support for an end to violence, Willie McCrea very publicly nailed his colours to the LVF leaders mast when he appeared at a support rally in Portadown. At that time Mr McCrea claimed that his actions were merely showing support for someone living under threat.

"Yet it has emerged today at the Billy Wright inquiry that Mr McCrea was meeting with the then UVF leader in 1991 and 1992. This revelation needs to be put in context. At that time Willie McCrea was elected as the MP for Mid-Ulster. Billy Wright was directing a murder campaign against Catholics in that constituency. Yet despite this being common knowledge and Wright making little effort to disguise his role as a loyalist murder gang leader, the local MP was holding discussions with him.

"This revelation will cause deep anger amongst the victims of Billy Wright's murder squad. At best McCrea is guilty of gross hypocrisy. Willie McCrea now must set out in detail the extent and nature of his relationship with Wright and what he knew, if anything, about Mr Wright's activities as during this period." ENDS



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