
The Bloody Sunday Inquiry

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PRESS NOTICE

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RULING ON STANDARD OF PROOF

The Tribunal of the Bloody Sunday Inquiry has today made a ruling as to the standard of proof which the Tribunal should apply before making findings in its Report.

It was argued by some of the interested parties that the Tribunal should not make findings implying criminality or serious misconduct on the part of any individual unless satisfied beyond reasonable doubt (in the case of findings implying criminality) or to what was described as the enhanced civil standard of proof (in the case of findings of serious misconduct)

The Tribunal has concluded that: -

- provided it makes clear the degree of confidence or certainty with which it reaches any conclusion as to facts and matters that may imply or suggest criminality or serious misconduct of any individual; **and**
- there is evidence and reasoning that logically supports the conclusion to the degree of confidence or certainty expressed; **and**
- provided those concerned have been given a proper opportunity to deal with allegations made against them, there would be no unfairness to anyone and no good reason to limit the Tribunal's findings by reference to the criminal or enhanced civil standard of proof.

Full details have been posted on the Inquiry website under Rulings and Judgements

Notes to Editors

1. For further information, contact the Inquiry's Chief Press Secretary, Ivan Bailey, tel: 020 7661 9532; mobile: 07715 001 361; e-mail: ivanb@bloody-sunday-inquiry.org.
2. The Inquiry's website address is: <http://www.bloody-sunday-inquiry.org>