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The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP Prime Minister 10 Downing Street London SW1A 2AA

Royal Mail Signed For 1st Class

**Open Letter** 

24 April 2023

Dear Prime Minister,

Re: La Mon House Bombing-One of the most horrific attacks in Northern Ireland-(17 February 1978)

I am writing to you on behalf of the victims of the La Mon House bombing perpetrated by the IRA on 17 February 1978, which killed twelve people and injured twenty-three others, some very seriously. I would request your assurance that the on-going investigation by the Police Ombudsman of Northern Ireland will not be interrupted as a result of the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill coming into force.

Following a request for a public inquiry submitted to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, a complaint was lodged with the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland in 2014. Due to a persistent lack of funding, the investigation into this case did not start until March 2022 and according to the Senior Investigation Officer, whom I met on 13 April 2023, this investigation could be completed by April 2024.

The sole major obstacle that could jeopardise the completion of this investigation is the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill, which may come into force in the near future. For this reason, taking into account the seriousness of this case and the length of time the victims have been waiting for this investigation to be carried out, may I urgently request that you, Prime Minister, intervene so as to ensure that this investigation can be continued by the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland until its conclusion.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Axel Shunoth

**Axel Schmidt** 

**Advocacy Service Manager** 

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