Draft Government Statement

Successive Irish Governments, over the past four years, have worked intensively at the peace process, to bring Sinn Fein into normal peaceful and democratic politics.

After the cold -blooded murder of Detective Garda Jerry McCabe, the wounding of Detective Garda Ben O Sullivan, and the callous bombing in Manchester, Sinn Fein face a simple question - do they support what the IRA call their armed struggle?

SinnFein must be given an opportunity to address this clear question quickly, and they must provide a clear, unambiguous answer.

The events of the past week, which have shocked the Irish people, mean that there can no longer be any doubt about where Sinn Fein stands. The people are entitled to know if Sinn Fein supports the IRA.

ends.