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The Amalgamation of Official Northern Ireland Supporters Clubs

The Amalgamation of Official NISCs

NEWS RELEASE

FANS SAY:

"STADIUM RACE STILL HAS SOME WAY TO GO"

The group representing more than seventy Official Northern Ireland Supporters Clubs has today hit back at suggestions that the proposal to build a multi-sports stadium at the site of the former Maze Prison is a 'done deal'.

The Amalgamation of Official NISCs will tonight meet with the Executive Committee of the Irish Football Association in order to set out their views on the ongoing stadium debate. The supporters' group says that it will again lobby MLAs and intends to seek a meeting with the DCAL Minister-designate, Edwin Poots, in the coming weeks.

A spokesman for the group said: **"We welcome the return of a local administration and hope that this will lead to greater transparency and openness in determining what direction**

Government will take when deciding the best means of investing in Northern Ireland's sporting infrastructure.

The Minister-designate has gone on record in recent days stating his willingness to look at alternatives and has spoken in the past of his frustration at the lack of publicly available information concerning the entire Stadium decision-making process. The challenge now for the new Minister is to ensure that all of the previously with-held and unattainable information relating to this issue is released to the public.

We will continue to work pro-actively on the National Stadium issue and the issue of investment in the local game in order to ensure that football in Northern Ireland gets a fair deal and we invite the Irish FA and other members of the 'footballing family' to join us in doing so".

ENDS

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