



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Invitation to Attend a Service of Remembrance at Guillemont
Date:	22nd May, 2009
Reporting Officer:	Mr. Liam Steele, Head of Committee and Members' Services (extension 6325)
Contact Officer:	Mr. Liam Steele, Head of Committee and Members' Services (extension 6325)

Relevant Background Information

Correspondence has been received from the Somme Association enquiring if the Council would wish to be represented at a Service of Remembrance for the men of the 16th (Irish) Division to be held in Guillemont, France on 3rd September, 2009.

Key Issues

The Council normally authorises attendance at the Somme Pilgrimage in July to recognise the sacrifice of the 36th (Ulster) and 16th (Irish) Divisions and has already approved attendance at this year's event. The Pilgrimage includes Services of Remembrance at both Thiepval and Guillemont. That being the case, it is considered that there would be no added benefit accruing to the ratepayers of the City through attendance at this additional service.

Resource Implications

Financial

If the Committee were minded to authorise attendance, the cost would be approximately £750 per delegate.

Human Resources

There are no Human Resource Implications associated with this report.

Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to decline the invitation on this occasion.

Decision Tracking

The decision of the Committee will be conveyed to Somme Association and implemented following ratification by the Council.
Officer Responsible - Mr. Jim Hanna, Senior Committee Administrator

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