



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Invitations to Attend Somme Remembrance Parade at Knockagh War Memorial and Similar Events
<b>Date:</b>	22nd May, 2009
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Mr. Liam Steele, Head of Committee and Members' Services (extension 6325)
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Mr. Liam Steele, Head of Committee and Members' Services (extension 6325)

### Relevant Background Information

Correspondence has been received from the Knockagh Joint Committee inviting Members to attend the Somme Remembrance Parade and Service at the Knockagh War Memorial, Monument Road, Carrickfergus on Saturday, 28th June at 10.40 a.m. As part of the Service the Mayor from each of the City, Borough and District Councils with County Antrim has been requested to lay a wreath. Refreshments will be provided in the Civil Centre, Antrim Street, Carrickfergus following the event.

The Committee has authorised attendance at previous events and has contributed financially towards the restoration of the Memorial.

### Key Issues

The Committee routinely receives invitations of this nature and grants authority for Members to attend.

However, it is the view that, rather than continue to report all such correspondence to the Committee, authority to accept such invitations, where there is no cost to the Council except travelling expenses, should be delegated to the Chief Executive.

The Chief Executive currently has such authority in the case of invitations to attend the Northern Ireland Disabled Ex-Servicemen's Association Annual Church Service which is held annually in the Sinclair Seamen's Church.

### Resource Implications

#### Financial

Travelling expenses only.

#### Human Resources

There are no Human Resource implications associated with this report.

<b>Recommendations</b>
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<p>It is recommended that the Committee authorises the attendance of any Member of the Council at the Service.</p>
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<p>It is further recommended that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to accept in future years the invitation to attend the Service and other similar events, where there is no cost to the Council except minor travelling expenses.</p>
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<b>Decision Tracking</b>
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<p>If the Committee authorises attendance at the event, the names of those Members wishing to attend will be sought and forwarded to the Knockagh Memorial Committee.</p>
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<p>Officer responsible – Mr. Jim Hanna, Senior Committee Administrator.</p>
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