

### **Belfast City Council**

**Report to:** Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

Subject: Responses to Notice of Motion re: Job Losses

**Date:** 19th June, 2009

Reporting Officer: Mr. S. McCrory, Principal Committee Administrator

**Contact Officer:** Mr. S. McCrory (extension 6314)

# **Relevant Background Information**

The Committee will recall that the Council, at a special meeting on 9th April, passed the following Notice of Motion:

- "1. Belfast City Council notes with deep concern the devastating job losses at Visteon, Bombardier Shorts, FG Wilson, Nortel and Hughes Christensen announced in the last week and recognises the real challenges currently facing workers and businesses in the city.
- 2. At this time of economic challenge the Council recognises the need for integrated action and calls upon the Executive to introduce a co-ordinated Ministerial response to the job losses in the city.
- 3. The Council agrees that it is necessary to make every effort it can to support this Ministerial response and will work with the key training providers in the City to offer hope and opportunities for retraining to people presently facing redundancy.
- 4. The Council supports the Visteon workers in their demand for fair and just redundancy packages and agrees to write to Ford calling on it to honour its obligations and to make adequate reward to the employees for their many years of honest labour and endeavour on behalf of the company."

## **Key Issues**

Correspondence has been received from the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, in consultation with the Minister for Employment and Learning outlining the services and protocols which already exist and the actions which will be taken now and in the future to help alleviate the financial pressures being experienced currently by many companies across Northern Ireland.

In addition, a response has been received from the Chairman of Ford of Europe outlining its position.

### **Resource Implications**

There are no Human Resource or financial implications associated with this report.

#### Recommendations

The Committee is asked to note the receipt of the correspondence.

### **Decision Tracking**

Any decision of the Committee will be implemented following the Council meeting on 1st July.

Officer Responsible - Mr. Jim Hanna, Senior Committee Administrator

#### **Documents Attached**

Appendix 1 – Response from Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment.

Appendix 2 – Response from Chairman of Ford Europe.