



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy & Resources Committee
Subject:	Application by the Ulster Branch of the Irish Guards Association to have a 'Walk for the Wounded' wreath laying event at the City Hall Cenotaph
Date:	17 th February 2012
Reporting Officer:	G Millar, Director of Property & Projects
Contact Officer:	George Wright, Head of Facilities Management (Ext 6232/5206)

Relevant Background Information

A request has been received from the Ulster Branch of the Irish Guards Association to have a 'Walk for the Wounded' wreath-laying event at the City Hall Cenotaph at 2pm on Saturday 3rd March 2012.

Members will be aware that the authority delegated by the Committee to the Director of Property & Projects in respect of the use of the City Hall and grounds specifically excludes the Cenotaph and that consequently all such requests must be placed before the Committee.

The wreath-laying ceremony is the last part of a fundraising event which involves members of the Irish Guards Association walking the 128 miles from Dublin to Belfast from the 26th February to 3rd March. The purpose behind completing the walk is "to raise funds for Irish Guardsmen injured in the line of duty in recent conflicts such as Iraq, Afghanistan and other conflicts".

On reaching the City Hall the Association wish to have a short service at the Cenotaph. Approximately 50 people will attend. A piper and bugler will be present and there will be standard bearers representing both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland Irish Guards Associations.

Key Issues

Organisers of the event will be liaising with the PSNI and the Parades Commission about obtaining the necessary approvals for parading to the City Hall.

The proposed event will not impinge on any other activities taking place in the grounds, although there might be a higher security presence than normal.

Resource Implications

The organisers will be providing their own stewards and no staffing or other resources will be required from the council.

Decision (s) required

The Committee is recommended to accede to the request from the Ulster Branch of the Irish Guards Association to have a wreath laying event at the City Hall Cenotaph as set out above.
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Key to Abbreviations

None

Documents Attached

Appendix 1 – Letter from Irish Guards Association dated 24 January 2012.
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