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| Report to: | Joint Diversity Group of Party Group Leaders and Centenaries Working Group |
| Subject: | Memorabilia in City Hall – Operation Banner |
| Date: | Friday 1 March 2013 |
| Reporting | Hazel Francey, Good Relations Manager |

| Relevant Background Information | |
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| 1 | <p>The Group will be aware that, following a short consultation exercise and having considered various options, the Council agreed at its meeting on 1 November 2012:</p> <p>“That the memorial to the servicemen and women should take the form of:</p> <p>(ii) The modification of the existing UDR window at the City Hall to include the “Conspicuous Gallantry Cross” awarded by Her Majesty the Queen in 2006; and</p> <p>(i) The location of a granite bench with the inscription “Placed here to honour the service and sacrifice of the men and women of Her Majesty’s Forces during Operation Banner 1969-2007” in the Garden of Remembrance at the City Hall;</p> <p>subject to such provision being considered as part of the overall Equality Impact Assessment in the City Hall”.</p> |
| Key issues | |
| 2 | The full Equality Impact Assessment of memorabilia in the City Hall was approved by the Council on 3 December and the next stage in this will be the development of a detailed Action Plan, which may take some time to be agreed in full. |
| 3 | In view of the fact that the original Notice of Motion which requested a memorial had been agreed in 2007, the DUP Party Group Members are keen that work on these two items should proceed in advance of the main Action Plan and have requested that these be considered separately. |

| Equality and Good Relations Implications | |
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| 4 | <p>The recent EQIA agreed by Council on <i>Belfast City Hall: Promoting a good and harmonious environment</i> summarises our aim as:</p> <p>“To manage Belfast City Hall and its grounds in order to help promote a good and harmonious environment for those who visit and work in the building, while reflecting both the diverse identities of its users and the several functions served by the City Hall, and acknowledging its prominent role in the civic life and history of Belfast.”</p> |

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| 5 | An equality screening exercise will be completed for each of these proposals. Members will be aware that one of the main findings of the EQIA highlighted the need for greater balance of objects and displays within the building. The installation of these two items at this stage will further reinforce the need to address this imbalance in the future Action Plan. |
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| | Resource Implications |
| 6 | The cost of these items can be met within existing budgets: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amendment to UDR window, estimate £1000• Granite bench within Garden of Remembrance, estimate £2200 |

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| | Decision required |
| 7 | The views of the Joint Diversity Group on this proposal are requested. |