



Report to:	Strategic Policy & Resources Committee
Subject:	Operation Banner
Date:	Friday 21 September 2012
Reporting Officer:	Hazel Francey, Good Relations Manager

Relevant Background Information	
1.0	The Committee will be aware that at its last meeting on 7 September the up-date report on Operation Banner which had been submitted to the Committee meeting of 24 August and taken back at the Council meeting on 3 September, was again considered. (Full copy of report to Strategic Policy & Resources Committee of 24 August attached for information).
2.0	At the meeting on 7 September, Councillor Reynolds advised the Committee that there had been no opportunity for the relevant welfare groups to have been consulted between the time of the Council meeting and the date of the Committee meeting and he therefore requested that the Committee consider deferring the matter until its next meeting on 21st September to enable that process to be undertaken.
3.0	A Member suggested that any consultation should include victims' groups and should be as inclusive and as broad as possible and that his Party would be content to defer the matter on that basis.
4.0	After further discussion, the Committee agreed to defer the update on Operation Banner until its next meeting on 21 September and that the consultation should include victims' groups. It agreed further that the Party Leaders would be provided with a list of the groups included within that category prior to the next meeting of the Committee.
5.0	A list of victims' groups in Belfast has been supplied by the new Victims & Survivors' Service and has been circulated to the Party Leaders in advance of this meeting. In addition, the relevant welfare groups associated with the police and the armed forces would be consulted.

	Key Issues
6.0	Members will be aware that consultation with the number of groups involved might be time-consuming and that a wide range of views could be expected. The Committee is requested to note that a decision on a preferred option at this stage would be helpful.

	Decision required
7.0	The Committee is requested to consider the options presented in the original report and determine an appropriate course of action.

	Officer to contact for more information
8.0	Hazel Francey, Good Relations Manager, ext 6020