

## **WEEKLY ANSWERS BOOKLET**

**Session 2006-2007**

**Friday 3 August 2007**

### **Written Answers to Questions**

**Source:** <http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/qanda/2007mandate/writtenans/070803.htm>

### **Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister**

#### **Ulster Defence Regiment Memorial**

Mr Paul Butler asked the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister what steps the Equality Commission has taken to investigate Lisburn City Council's decision to erect an Ulster Defence Regiment memorial on land owned by the Council.

(AQW 647/07)

Rt Hon Dr Paisley and Mr McGuinness: As this is an operational matter for the Equality Commission, I have asked the Chief Executive to respond to you directly. I understand that the Chief Executive will respond in the following terms:

The Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister has passed to the Equality Commission for reply your question (AQW 647/07) asking what steps we have taken to investigate Lisburn City Council's decision to erect an Ulster Defence Regiment memorial on land owned by the Council. When you raised concerns about this with the Commission last year you were advised of the procedure for taking a formal complaint. While no such complaint has since been received the issue remains on file as a potential investigation on which we have provided advice. The Commission had sought clarification from Lisburn City Council in relation to the issue you raised as it related to the Council's Equality Scheme. The Commission, conscious of its powers to initiate an investigation of its own volition under Paragraph 11 of Schedule 9 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, has kept the issue of a potential failure to comply with an approved scheme under consideration. The Commission is also writing to Lisburn City Council requesting an update on this matter.