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## 06 August 2008 - Junior Minister announce consultation on a new strategy for victims and survivors

**Junior Ministers Jeffrey Donaldson and Gerry Kelly today announced the publication of a new draft strategy for victims and survivors.**

Announcing the launch of the consultation period which will last for 12 weeks, at the WAVE Trauma Centre in Belfast Jeffrey Donaldson said: "Today marks another important step forward for the Executive. We have said since the restoration of devolution that we would make victims and survivors a priority for this administration.

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

- 06 August 2008 - Junior Minister announce consultation on a new strategy for victims and survivors
- 31 July 2008 - Public Appointments Commissioner Re-Appointed
- 28 July 2008 - McGuinness and Donaldson meet Palestinian and Irish peace teenagers
- 28 July 2008 - Cross community study published
- 22 July 2008 - Robinson and McGuinness share Cultural Heritage with prospective US Ambassadors
- 22 July 2008 - OFMDFM significant increase in funding for Victims and Survivors
- 22 July 2008 - Junior

"We have recently announced interim funding arrangements for work with victims and survivors during this year. The outline strategy proposes the way ahead in the longer term. There is no issue more sensitive or difficult to deal with for the Executive than that of how to address the needs of victims and survivors. We hope that this document will help to move us on the road to making a real difference to the lives of those who have been most affected by the events here over the last 40 years."

Gerry Kelly added: "The Executive set aside £36million to meet the needs of victims and survivors over the next three years.

However, we want to ensure that future support and services are shaped by victims and survivors. It is important that everyone with an interest in victims and survivors issues read this draft document carefully and gives us their views. This outline Strategy will set a clear direction for policy in this area over the next 10 years. Through the Executive, we have the opportunity to make

## Ministers welcome Independent Asylum Commissions report

- 21 July 2008 - Gerry Kelly meets Hydebank Inspector
- 21 July 2008 - Robinson and McGuinness discuss economic challenges
- 09 July 2008 - Junior Minister Kelly seeks urgent meeting with Hydebank Inspector
- 09 July 2008 - McGuinness pays tribute to Seamus Brennan
- 02 July 2008 - Robinson and McGuinness open RTE offices
- 26 June 2008 - Junior Minister Kelly calls for enhanced role for women in post conflict societies
- 26 June 2008 - Kelly and Donaldson welcome North Belfast MLAs' commitment to interface peace
- 26 June 2008 - Junior Minister presents youth give and take awards
- 25 June 2008 - Robinson and McGuinness press for relief from oil duty hike
- 25 June 2008 - Junior Minister opens seminar on including children and young people in public decision-making
- 24 June 2008 - Kelly committed to equality of opportunity for all
- 24 June 2008 - Robinson

a real difference to the lives of those affected by conflict.

Minister Donaldson and Minister Kelly met with staff and volunteers at the WAVE Trauma Centre to hear of the support they deliver to victims and survivors – from befriending and individual counselling to advice and training seminars.

### Notes to Editors:

1. The consultation document can be obtained by contacting the Victims Unit of OFMDFM at the following address:

The Victims Unit

Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister

Block 5

Knockview Buildings

Stormont

Belfast

BT4 3SL

Tel: 028 9052 3445

2. The document may also be downloaded from the [OFMDFM website](#)

and McGuinness condemn murder

- 23 June 2008 - Junior Ministers praise youth for efforts to end interface violence in north Belfast
- 19 June 2008 - Tackling poverty and exclusion requires partnership: Junior Minister Gerry Kelly
- 19 June 2008 - Deputy First Minister praises work of learning together initiative
- 18 June 2008 - Deputy First Minister attends launch of Centre of Excellence
- 17 June 2008 - Deputy First Minister committed to building a diverse and equal society
- 14 June 2008 - Robinson congratulates honours recipients
- 14 June 2008 - Birthday 2008 honours list - Northern Ireland
- 13 June 2008 - McGuinness joins in celebrations at St Patrick's Primary School
- 13 June 2008 - Deputy First Minister visits former Lisanelly army base
- 11 June 2008 - Deputy First Minister visits historic west Belfast mill
- 10 June 2008 - Junior Ministers welcome after schools funding

3. Founded in 1991, the WAVE Trauma Centre is a victims and survivors support group which provides a range of services to both communities, offering individual counselling, personal development and empowerment training and complementary therapies to those affected by the conflict. 4. There are five centres as part of the WAVE group – Belfast, Armagh, Ballymoney, Omagh and Londonderry.5. Media enquiries to OFMDFM Press Office on 028 9052 1375. Out of office hours please contact the Duty Press Office via pager number 07699 715 440 and your call will be returned.

-  05 June 2008 - Speeches delivered by First Minister and Deputy First Minister in the assembly chamber
-  04 June 2008 - New Stena Line terminal is open for business
-  03 June 2008 - Paisley and McGuinness announce establishment of Victims and Survivors Commission
-  03 June 2008 - Remarkable bravery of Kegworth team recognised
-  02 June 2008 - New commissioners appointed to the planning and water appeals commissions

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