

[Empey: We need to find a shared and agreed way forward for Victims Issues](#)

[E-mail to a friend](#) *January 25th, 2007 Sir Reg Empey MLA*



UUP Leader Sir Reg Empey today urged the Secretary of State to convene a meeting with the political parties and victims groups on how best to address victim's issues as a whole.



Sir Reg said that sporadic report after report was corroding the political process and said it was akin to constantly picking at a scab.

In a statement Sir Reg said,

“The publication of the Ombudsman's Report has had a corrosive effect on the political process. The whole context in which the report was released is part of the problem, leaks, speculation and with large swathes of one side of the community seeing it as one-sided approach.

As a community we need to work out an agreed, cohesive way of how we deal with the past.

I am calling on the Secretary of State to convene a meeting of the parties and victims groups as a matter of urgency. Accusations of one-sidedness coupled with the erratic, sporadic and de-stabilising nature of report after report need to be nipped in the bud. We can do this by agreeing a mutually beneficial way forward as opposed to the current approach which is like constantly picking at a scab.”

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