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## ATTWOOD 'TENSIONS MAY BE BEGINNING TO LIFT'

Back to Latest News

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Events

Xey Speeches

Photo Gallery

Commenting on developments around Sunday's parade and protest, SDLP West Belfast Assembly Member Alex Attwood has stated,

"It is now clear efforts will be made by the police to get everyone including the British Army and Sinn Fein to think differently about Sunday. That's why the atmosphere is now changing. Tensions may be beginning to lift.

"That's why elements in Unionism must now pull back on the excessive language and unhelpful interventions in response to the announcement by the GOC. It is not many years ago that certain Unionist leaders made a bad situation worse around the Orange Order's Whiterock parade. On one occasion excessive language contributed to a very difficult situation. There are elements in Unionism who should remember all of that and should now join others in taking the sting out of Sunday. That was not clear in some things that have been said in response to the GOC statement. The SDLP would urge that that becomes clear over the coming day."

**ENDS** 

31-10-08

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