

Document 4

From: Minne, Jill [Redacted Section 40(2)]
Sent: 24 March 2025 12:53
To: Gibson, Neil [Redacted Section 40(2)]; Harding, Leander [Redacted Section 40(2)]
Cc: DOF PressOffice <dof.pressoffice@finance-ni.gov.uk>; Conlan, Ciarrai [Redacted Section 40(2)]; McLaughlin, Mark (DOF) [Redacted Section 40(2)]; Quinn, Aisling (P&OD) [Redacted Section 40(2)]
Subject: J Minne to NG - RE: ACTION - J Minne to L Harding - Re: Update - For clearance - LTT/ Belfast Pride latest to ban political parties from parade

Thanks Neil.

Yes, the key issue to remember with this is that attendance at Pride as **an employer** (a large one) through its staff network is different to political attendance.

From: [Redacted Section 40(2)] **On Behalf Of** Gibson, Neil
Sent: 24 March 2025 12:36
To: Minne, Jill [Redacted Section 40(2)]; Harding, Leander [Redacted Section 40(2)]
Cc: DOF PressOffice <dof.pressoffice@finance-ni.gov.uk>; Conlan, Ciarrai [Redacted Section 40(2)]; McLaughlin, Mark (DOF) [Redacted Section 40(2)]; Quinn, Aisling (P&OD) [Redacted Section 40(2)]; Gibson, Neil [Redacted Section 40(2)]
Subject: RE: ACTION - J Minne to L Harding - Re: Update - For clearance - LTT/ Belfast Pride latest to ban political parties from parade

I concur with this Jill, we should accelerate the conversation if required, rather than any holding line. Happy to feed into that if needed. As PS with responsibility for personnel I would need directed to do anything other than what we normally do (appreciate HoCS role here so clearly need that engagement with her to see where she sits on the matter).

NG

From: Minne, Jill [Redacted Section 40(2)]
Sent: 22 March 2025 15:12
To: Harding, Leander [Redacted Section 40(2)]; Gibson, Neil [Redacted Section 40(2)]
Cc: DOF PressOffice <dof.pressoffice@finance-ni.gov.uk>; Conlan, Ciarrai [Redacted Section 40(2)]; McLaughlin, Mark (DOF) [Redacted Section 40(2)]; Quinn, Aisling (P&OD) [Redacted Section 40(2)]
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Leander

For a number of reasons I don't think we should say that.

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Harding, Leander [Redacted Section 40(2)]
Sent: Saturday, March 22, 2025 2:15:58 PM
To: Minne, Jill [Redacted Section 40(2)]; Gibson, Neil [Redacted Section 40(2)]
Cc: DOF PressOffice <dof.pressoffice@finance-ni.gov.uk>; Conlan, Ciarraí [Redacted Section 40(2)]; McLaughlin, Mark (DOF) [Redacted Section 40(2)]; Quinn, Aisling (P&OD) [Redacted Section 40(2)]
Subject: Update - For clearance - LTT/ Belfast Pride latest to ban political parties from parade

Jill and Neil,

As agreed I had sent our draft line to HOCS for review and TEO have requested we use the holding line below in relation to any media queries as it is felt there needs to be further engagement before we come to a position regarding this years Pride. If you are content I will take the line to the Minister/Spad for clearance. At this stage we have not been approached by the media for comment.

Statement cleared by HOCS

A spokesperson for the Department of Finance said: “The NI Civil Service notes the decision by Belfast Pride and will discuss it internally before coming to any decision on attending this year’s parade.”

Best wishes
Leander

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