

Identity and Language (Northern Ireland) Bill [HL]

AMENDMENTS
TO BE MOVED
ON REPORT

[Supplementary to the Marshalled List]

Amendment
No.

Clause 1

LORD MORROW
LORD EMPEY

2A★ Clause 1, page 3, line 33, at end insert –

“(5) The First Minister and deputy First Minister acting jointly must annually assess and report on the costs arising from the operation of the Office in line with the duties prescribed in section (*Assessment of expenditure*) of the Identity and Language (Northern Ireland) Act 2022.”

Clause 2

LORD MORROW

4A★ Clause 2, page 6, leave out lines 10 to 23

Member's explanatory statement

The NDNA does not commit to assisting the Irish Language Commissioner or the Ulster Scots Commissioner with the provision of a duty on public authorities to have regard to them. This amendment would mean that neither of the Commissioners benefit from public authorities being subject to having a duty to have regard to them.

After Clause 7

LORD MORROW
LORD EMPEY

30A★ After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause –

“Ulster Scots fund

The Secretary of State must establish and maintain a fund to support the provision of projects and programmes which connect Ulster Scots in Northern Ireland with Ulster Scots in the rest of the United Kingdom.”

After Clause 7 - continued

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would place the Secretary of State under an obligation to fund projects that connect Ulster Scots communities in Northern Ireland with those in all parts of the United Kingdom. This is in recognition of the status of the Ulster Scots as a national minority under the Framework Convention for National Minorities.

After Clause 8

LORD MORROW
LORD EMPEY

35A★ After Clause 8, insert the following new Clause –

“Assessment of expenditure

The First Minister and deputy First Minister acting jointly must in each year after this Act is passed –

- (a) compare the total public monies spent in relation to –
 - (i) the Irish Language Commissioner, and
 - (ii) the Commissioner for the Ulster Scots and the Ulster British tradition, to ensure that the parity of esteem is respected in the spending between the unionist and nationalist communities, and

- (b) assess the costs associated with running the Office of Identity and Cultural Expression, and securing regard for the Office by public authorities, to ensure that the parity of esteem between the unionist and nationalist communities is respected.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment places a requirement on Ministers in The Executive Office to annually compare the total public monies spent in relation to i) the Irish Language Commissioner and ii) the Commissioner for the Ulster Scots and the Ulster British tradition to ensure that the parity of esteem is respected in the spending between the unionist and nationalist communities. It also requires them to assess the costs associated with the Office of Identity and Cultural Expression on the same basis.

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5 July 2022
