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NORTHERN IRELANDS LARGEST POLITICAL PARTY



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DUP NEWS

Latest News:

EQUALITY COMMISSION NOT CONSULTED ON REMOVAL OF ENNISKILLEN BOMB PHOTOGRAPH

DUP Fermanagh and South Tyrone MLA Arlene Foster has today met with the Equality Commission and discussed the removal of a tribute to those killed in the Enniskillen bomb from the Fire Station in Enniskillen. The montage of photographs of the IRA bomb victims and picture of Enniskillen cenotaph was debated widely at the time of its removal and was strongly opposed by Mrs Foster. After her meeting today the DUP MLA said,

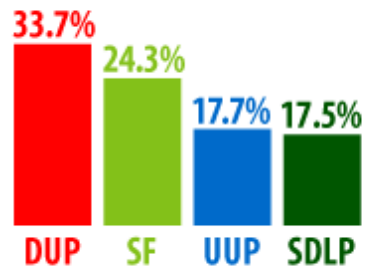


"It became clear during the course of our meeting that at no point did the Fire Service consult the Equality Commission on the removal of this montage. The Equality Commission exists for the purpose of giving an independent view on matters such as the neutrality of working environments.

I am absolutely astounded that the decision to remove the montage now seems to have been a decision solely arrived at by the Fire Service. Why was the Equality Commission not consulted?

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2005 Westminster Results

The photograph of the victims, which had no inscription of any kind on it, was removed by the Fire Service after a complaint was lodged by a member of staff in the depot. This individual claimed that the photograph was offensive and asked that it be removed. The Northern Ireland Fire Service ruled that it should be withdrawn immediately.

This decision shows a complete lack of respect for those who lost their lives in the IRA bomb. I will now be seeking an urgent meeting with the Fire Service to discuss this decision and voice my concerns about why the Fire Service did not seek advice from the Equality Commission on this matter."

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