An Ulster Unionist Party spokesperson said:

"The Ulster Unionist Party proposed an amendment that Council Buildings should be lit up in line with Council policy where requests are made to mark specific dates in the calendar. This is also a precedent agreed by Belfast City Council where City Hall will be lit up in rainbow colours on 4th August and is also lit on other occasions to mark specific dates in the calendar such as the Twelfth of July, Remembrance, the Special Olympics, St Patrick`s Day and the 70thanniversary of the NHS.

"Regrettably our amendment was not supported by any of the other parties who have colleagues sitting in Belfast City Hall. Only one other councillor in the chamber expressed their support.

"Our support for members of the LGBTQ+ community or any other community is not in question and it`s a shame that others want to spend their time making mischief. It is to all our benefit for Northern Ireland to be a society where everyone can live a full life and feel valued as a member of society."