



# Police Service of Northern Ireland

Office of the Chief Constable  
Police Headquarters  
65 Knock Road  
Belfast BT5 6LE

Email: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Kathy O'Hanlon  
Clerk to the committee for Justice  
Department of Justice  
Room 345. Parliament Buildings  
Stormont Estate  
BELFAST BT4 3XX

Our Ref: EST 20250327

10 April 2025

## Crime and Policing Bill — Legislative Consent Memorandum

Dear Kathy,

Thank you for your letter dated the 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2025.

You have asked:

1. Whether it [PSNI] has had any engagement with the Home Office on the provisions in the Bill.
2. If so, to provide details on the scope of the provisions including whether paramilitary flags and paraphernalia will be banned.

I can confirm that the then ACC Singleton engaged with the Home Office in Summer 2024 and again more recently in February 2025.

Whilst your query references *Paramilitary flags and paraphernalia*. The legislation is directed towards proscribed organisations the full list can be found [here](#)

- 81 terrorist organisations are proscribed under the Terrorism Act 2000.
- 14 organisations in Northern Ireland that were proscribed under previous legislation.

Section 13 of TACT 2000 makes it an offence to wear any uniform, or wear, carry or display an article (including publishing images online), in a way which would arouse reasonable suspicion that



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the individual is a supporter or member of a proscribed organisation. Case law has confirmed that this can include flags.

The new power will permit the seizure of items and their destruction and this will include cases where no suspect has been identified. PSNI existing property management process will deal with any seizures and disposals.

In cases where a suspect is identified it will be a matter for the courts to decide on guilt and authorise the destruction of items in connection with the case.

I hope that this assists in clarifying the matter.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]



**Northern Ireland Assembly  
Committee for Justice**

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

PSNI Headquarters  
65 Knock Road  
Belfast  
BT5 6LEXX  
Email: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

27 March 2025

**Crime and Policing Bill — Legislative Consent Memorandum**

Dear [REDACTED]

At its meeting on 20 March 2025, the Committee for Justice received oral evidence from Department of Justice officials on a proposed Legislative Consent Memorandum (LCM) for the Crime and Policing Bill.

During the session, the officials advised of the inclusion of provisions at Clause 123 relating to the wearing or displaying of articles in support of proscribed organisations following a recommendation from the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation. Departmental officials were unable to provide any detailed information on the provisions as they are excepted or reserved matters that do not require the Assembly's consent, but indicated that there may have been engagement with the PSNI. The Committee therefore agreed to ask the PSNI whether it has had any engagement with the Home Office on the provisions in the Bill and, if so, to provide details on the scope of the provisions including whether paramilitary flags and paraphernalia will be banned.

I should appreciate a response by 10 April 2025.

Yours sincerely

*Kathy O'Hanlon*

**Kathy O'Hanlon  
Clerk to the Committee for Justice**

Room 345, Parliament Buildings, Ballymiscaw, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3XX  
Telephone: (028) 905 21033

E-mail: [committee.justice@niassembly.gov.uk](mailto:committee.justice@niassembly.gov.uk)