

Response ID ANON-4V4P-4S2A-8

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-07-12 13:58:15

Clause 1: Removal of flags or emblems in the public interest

6 Do you agree with Clause 1 of the Bill?

Yes

7 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Care needs to be taken with the drafting of 'whether the flag or emblem is displayed for the purposes of celebration or commemoration' as this may be considered a rebuttal factor, but often the very celebrations or commemorations themselves could be considered antagonistic and shouldn't in and of themselves always form a means of justifying flags being flown.

Clause 2: Sensitive places

8 Do you agree with Clause 2 of the Bill?

Yes

9 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

It is important that the definition here is wide enough so as to cover other areas not specifically named in the clauses.

Clause 3: Procedure for / notification of, or giving views on, flags or emblems

10 Do you agree with Clause 3 of the Bill?

Yes

11 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

This needs to be easy and quick to report and access and should be widely publicised given that it can be used by both those wishing to report and those wishing to erect

Clause 4: Code of Practice

12 Do you agree with Clause 4 of the Bill?

Yes

13 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

It will be important to take views of authorities who will ultimately be responsible or will potentially have some sort of role for removing flags (if it becomes necessary) eg the PSNI, as they need to have an input into how this can best be done in order for it to be a workable and efficient process

Clause 5: Offence of obstructing the Department in removal of flag or emblem

14 Do you agree with Clause 5 of the Bill?

Yes

15 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Very important as I imagine this could be a big issue and there needs to be a deterrent in place

Clause 6: Request for assistance from police

16 Do you agree with Clause 6 of the Bill?

Yes

17 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Should there be a requirement for the police to respond and assist

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Yes

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

Yes

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Ideally it would be sooner but I appreciate there are stages to go through

Clause 9: Short title

22 Do you agree with Clause 9 of the Bill?

Yes

23 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible: