

Response ID ANON-5Q8K-8C4P-8

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-07-10 15:12:33

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

6 Do you agree with Clause 1 of the Bill?

Unsure

7 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Agree in principal that Dept should have duty to remove when in the public interest. However, I don't want to see public interest being defined in a way that segregates our society more, or entrenches current segregation. Don't want to see areas naming themselves one side or the other and claiming they can't look at anything that doesn't directly represent them. We have to learn to look at each other's stuff, and also not stuff our own stuff down other people's throats. We don't have officially unionist or nationalist towns or areas, and shouldn't start making it up and reinforcing labels.

Clause 2: Sensitive places

8 Do you agree with Clause 2 of the Bill?

Unsure

9 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I understand the motivation and agree in principle that public services must be not only open but inviting and unthreatening to all, but I don't want to see ghettos where flags and emblems are even more likely to be activated by some and defined by others as aggressive.

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

10 Do you agree with Clause 3 of the Bill?

Unsure

11 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Needs to be operated in such as way as to move towards us being able to put up with each other in a context where reasonable proposals are put re timing etc. We have to accept that we dont have to subscribe to or like other people's stuff.

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:

A code of practice that helps us put up with each other as well as protect the vulnerable when necessary, particularly in relation to race hate.

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:

Yes, something small. Not an opportunity to criminalise except in the case of race hate.

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:

Dear help the police though. Current threats re Moygashel are appalling. The process needs as much buy-in as possible and I don't know how to bring in people who would burn an effigy of migrants in a boat.

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:

And the process needs to include as much community conversation as possible so that the principles of putting up with each other as well as not antagonising each other are both embedded. Given that the race hate displays are the ones currently being acted upon, this issue needs to be foregrounded and so called protests which are actually threats against lives are dealt with very differently from our home grown annoyances which in so many places we are slowly outgrowing.

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: