

Response ID ANON-6D8Q-5Z9Y-4

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-07-17 05:18:48

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:

Flags are used purely as a territorial marker. It's 2026. This should not happen in a modern society. Some flags are used to express culture and that's understandable, but to have multiple flags draped over lampposts is pathetic and is nothing short of a deterrent for certain communities.

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:

There should be no flags in public places that are shared by all. Connswater shopping centre is a perfect example, currently there are Israel flags draped on most lampposts. How does this look to certain sections of the community. We must do better to remove these and ensure neutral spaces for all.

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:

There absolutely should be a better system for the reporting of flags. And one which gives a clear indication of what will happen next rather than just a "consultation with the PSNI", which to me basically means nothing will be done.

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:

There absolutely should be implementation of the bill as swiftly as possible, there is no need for delay. All stakeholders should be made aware of guidelines

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:

A penalty for obstruction should be absolutely necessary, for too long we are letting paramilitaries erect flags on lamp posts and again this should not happen in a modern society. It makes a mockery of everyone else.

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:

Safety is obviously an issue, assistance from the PSNI initially should be a factor until hopefully the people erecting the flags are away they will not get away with it.

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Yes

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

It should be clear what the bill entails.

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

Unsure

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

If this is the nearest timeframe for commencement then yes I agree, however, if it can be done earlier that would be the most effective date.

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: