

Response ID ANON-7A6A-2Y5S-2

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-07-14 17:21:08

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:

Public spaces should be a welcoming for all. Certain flags and emblems mark territory and can intimidate and make people feel unwelcome.

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:

Communal areas should be a safe space for all, particularly when people need to in the that particular location out of necessity - ie schools, doctors, pharmacies

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 would give people a mechanism to report flags which are unwanted particularly those which are intimidatory or sectarian. It would also provide a mechanism for people to request a installing a flag in a manner which is governed.

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:

This seems a reasonable time period and allows for consultation. Consultation however should not be used to stall the process - while it needs to be meaningful consultation it also needs to be timebound

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:

There needs to consequences. I would also suggest an increasing fine for repeat offenses. The fine needs to be substantial if it is to be a deterrent

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:

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Unsure

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Not sure what is meant by this. If just a glossary of terms would this not be standard?

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

Yes

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

The sooner the better

Clause 9: Short title

22 Do you agree with Clause 9 of the Bill?

Unsure

23 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Would be helpful to know what the short title is to give an informed answer