

Response ID ANON-7J2E-9G4H-M

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-07-10 21:34:45

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:

I agree with Clause 1 because, flags displayed on public property such as lamp posts are often not a celebration of culture but can instead be used to mark territory and make people feel excluded or intimidated. Placing a duty on the Department to remove flags and emblems where it is in the public interest will help ensure that public spaces remain welcoming and shared by everyone. I also support the requirement for the Department to consider the circumstances of each case before deciding whether removal is appropriate, as this provides a balanced and fair approach. For a government that claims to be a government for all, to let paramilitary flags and Israeli flags fly is a disgrace.

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:

I agree with this clause because public services should never be presented as belonging to one political or cultural tradition over another. Buildings, vehicles and facilities funded by taxpayers are there to serve everyone, regardless of their background or identity. Displaying symbols that associate public services with either nationalism or unionism risks creating division and making some members of the public feel that those services are not equally for them. Public spaces and public services should remain neutral, inclusive and welcoming to all members of the community.

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:

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:

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:

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?

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:

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: