

Response ID ANON-7J2E-9V8B-1

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-07-22 19:43:20

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 want the flags on annadale, sunnyside street, ormeau road, kimberely street and blackwood street removed. More and bigger every year and they dont come down. This is a nice area isnt loyalist, sinn fein are in power and I dont see tricolours, it is hostile and ugly. Does not reflect the multicultural bt7 area

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:

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

10 Do you agree with Clause 3 of the Bill?

No

11 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

No flags policy on lamp posts, you can stop residential but no one owns the lamp posts and general no flag policy that is blanket and police remove at night

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:

Several years ago the NI Executive spent around £800,000 to ascertain how to remedy this problem. The report that was published, the Flags, Identity, Culture and Traditions (FICT) report, laid out recommendations that a regulatory body, underpinned by legislation, was needed to regulate the flying of flags similarly to how parades are by the commission. This would mean agreements on when and where flags can be flown with appropriate actions, under law, should they be flown outside of agreements.

The SDLP supports these recommendations but for no good reason the NI Executive (currently made up of Alliance, SF, DUP and UUP) has failed to enact them. It is clear that this problem is not going away on its own and needs this body in place to finally resolve the matter once and for all. In our role as official Opposition we have consistently raised this with them, pressing the need to action the recommendations. The Executive know what needs to be done, it's a matter of turning words into actual outcomes.

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:

Psni did not use any force, rubber bullets or tear gas when an actual hit list of international residents were burnt out of their homes in the race riots. I consider this attempted murder and the police did nothing to protect the targeted houses. The police should be defunded and the least they could do is take flags down

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Unsure

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:

2028 is a joke

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: