

Response ID ANON-8H4T-2H8D-X

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-07-10 12:01:05

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:

they are divisive and territory marking, i think that's abundantly clear.
As a secondary concern they look unsightly and have an impact in surrounding house prices.

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:

I think an outright ban is simpler to manager and the more cost-effective solution.

If people want to adorn their houses with them, then clearly that's an area for some communities to do so, but not public property.

Clause 4: Code of Practice

12 Do you agree with Clause 4 of the Bill?

No

13 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Again, this makes a massive overhead for flags. They're clearly important to some people and they've the right to use their own property to fly whatever they want. Buildings are simpler and more poliitcally agnostic if they don't fly anything at all. Save for perhaps government buildings on occasion.

Clause 5: Offence of obstructing the Department in removal of flag or emblem

14 Do you agree with Clause 5 of the Bill?

No

15 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

A fine isn't enough of a sanction. A small custodial sentence is a bigger disincentive. Otherwise you're going to get into scenarios where people are giving fake accounts of who they are.

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:

DFI staff are absolutely going to need PSNI support. Anything else would be unfair on employees or contractors.

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

No

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

If this were passed it needs to be clear and consistent and not mired in legalese. Or percentage of support etc. I'd use Irish language signs as an example of what you'd get dragged into, if it weren't black and white.

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: