

Response ID ANON-8K6A-2S6Q-6

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-07-15 08:04:54

Clause 1: Removal of flags or emblems in the public interest

6 Do you agree with Clause 1 of the Bill?

Unsure

7 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

There is not enough information in the clause, what is defined as a 'public place' what is considered 'public interest'? Does one complaint about a flag mean it will be removed? Could this go as far as to stop all flags in all public places? Who ultimately has the final decision on whether a flag is removed? (It says the department, but who, at what level)

Clause 2: Sensitive places

8 Do you agree with Clause 2 of the Bill?

Unsure

9 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

What is considered the 'vicinity'? Is there a definition of this? For example X amount of metres from? Also, what about memorials that are beside these buildings (for example the memorial in Crumlin, beside the leisure centre). What would happen if for example, parades are being held in public parks, would no flags be allowed. This needs more consideration and just opens up more confusion.

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:

This is another layer of administration that is difficult to complete. Is it expected that every single flag is reported? This in practice is not doable.

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:

I cannot agree with something that has not already been drafted and consulted on.

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:

Not enough information to be able to say I agree or disagree with this element. What is considered 'obstruction'? Would a peaceful protest be considered obstruction?

Clause 6: Request for assistance from police

16 Do you agree with Clause 6 of the Bill?

No

17 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

The police are already stretched and under this clause would have to attend the removal of flags.

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

No

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

This makes the bill more vague and allows for bias in decisions

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

No

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Why are only some of the clauses commencing on that date? This is unclear

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:

Not enough information here