

Response ID ANON-8P3M-7W5V-1

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-07-25 15:35:45

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:

The general community should not be at the mercy of a minority who seek to cause conflict in the name of "celebration". Case in point being the Lisburn road.

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:

Flags seem to be placed at areas where they seek to show a dominance of one culture ie major junctions/roundabouts coming into towns or shared commercial areas such as the Lisburn road.

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:

The notification of flying flags should be mandatory and subject to permission to fly rather than retrospective. The individuals erecting flags have never sought permission from those affected before and are unlikely to do so voluntarily.

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?

Unsure

15 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I am not aware of what level 3 fine amounts to. Obstructing activity of a public body from performing work should be a criminal offence.

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:

For too long the removal of flags have been dodged by no one claiming departmental responsibility for performing the action or using threats to staff as a reason to avoid. I can think of occasions of contentious republican emblems and kerb painting in limavady being suddenly actioned whereas UDA flags remain wherever they are erected.

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Yes

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

As long as language in final bill is well thought so as to provide little scope for departments to shirk their responsibility.

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

Yes

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I would prefer commencement sooner

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: