

Response ID ANON-9X7G-6N9U-1

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-07-10 16:29:38

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:

Flags to be displayed should be on property and via flag pole. It's the least amount of respect that should be shown. Flags should not be used for territory marking, whether or not the area is majority of that persuasion.

Department enforcement of removal etc.. takes away completely the political nature of flags/emblems. If it's in law to do it it would be part of a day to day function.

There should be a consideration for the purpose/reason to fly a flag/emblems.

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 or emblems in NI are territorial markers and should not be allowed in the areas described. If a flag/emblem is to be flown/shown give it a space but it must have a purpose. It must not be used to mark areas and generate fear.

Public facilities are not one sided and are for all. Immediately removing flags or emblems of this nature will prevent fear and help with integration

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 fact that it is voluntary is a huge problem. We will end up with what we have at the moment. Thousands of flags hanging from the lampposts, no one responsible for putting them up. No request to put them up, no explanation because they are not required to.

Make flying them and emblems require to be allowed and only from buildings. All on public spaces, roads, highway or street should be removed and disposed off.

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:

As long as it is completely clear. Leaving a clause that says if it's not listed here as allowed assume it is not and ask for clarification.

Who are the actual list of stakeholders. Bodies like paramilitaries, lcc, orange order etc.. should not be considered stakeholders. Saying a list including these but not telling who will be is not good enough.

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:

Do not know what level 3 means value wise. Simply obstruction of department or officials should be a criminal offence, something the psni are brought to deal with at the time. It should be an arrest-able offence, not simply a fine. No community resolution notice should be allowed to prevent exploitation of youths.

To prevent confrontation, the removals body should work by night without notice. Simply in and out.

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:

As I said in the previous question. Simply in and out tactic should be used when possible. No notice should be afforded when removing flags or emblems, work should be carried out at night.

Every time a flag/emblems goes up it should be down as soon as possible.

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 7 shows no list. It should be short direct and not open to interpretation

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

No

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

The other clauses coming into effect when practical is not ok. 12 months should be more than enough time to implement them.

Clause 9: Short title

22 Do you agree with Clause 9 of the Bill?

No

23 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Display of Flags and Emblems Bill is short enough