

Response ID ANON-3G3U-7E8K-1

Submitted to Housing (Amendment) Bill - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-08-25 14:06:15

Consent and introduction

What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

What is your email address?

Email address box:

[REDACTED]

If you are providing a submission on behalf of an organisation, please state its name.

Organisation name box:

N/A

Please confirm you have read the Northern Ireland Assembly's Committee privacy notice by clicking the button below.

I have read the privacy notice

Do you consent to your submission being published on the Committee's website and included in the Committee's report?

Yes, publish but with my personal information and any content that could be used to identify me redacted.

General views on the Bill

Do you support the overall purpose of the Housing (Amendment) Bill?

Yes

Please explain your answer, including any areas where you believe the Bill should be amended.:

People at risk of homeless should be entitled to support in the form of extra payments made towards there rent.

At the minute it seems to be discretionary payments and depends of which housing officer you get to what support is provided. There should be a fund and payment rates set in stone open to all not just whenever they decide to help

Current 28-day period

Do you consider that the current 28-day period provides adequate protection for people who are threatened with homelessness?

No

Please explain your answer, including any practical examples or evidence.:

There is no chance of finding alternative accommodation in 28 days.

people struggle to get the money up to move, new deposit, moving fees first and last months rent, references and guarantors being requested by some landlords

Proposed 60-day period — Clause 1

Clause 1 would amend the definition of “threatened with homelessness” so that a person is included if they are likely to become homeless within 60 days rather than 28 days. Do you support this change?

Yes

What impact would this change have on homelessness prevention?

Text box for entering data:

Yes it should be extended even more if possible, the earlier support is provided to tenants struggling with the high local rents the sooner the relationship between the landlord and tenants can be saved and prevent them getting into arrears

Practical impact on people at risk of homelessness

Would extending the period to 60 days make it more likely that homelessness can be prevented before a person or household reaches crisis point?

Yes

Please explain your answer.:

Yes if support is provided at the time they start to fall behind they will be able to get caught up quicker with the support which will prevent them being evicted and needed housed by the council

Temporary accommodation and housing supply

Could the Bill increase demand for temporary accommodation, including non-standard accommodation such as hotels or B&Bs?

No

If so, how should this risk be addressed?:

If the bill supports tenants to stay in their private rented house it should reduce the spend needed for temporary housing.

If they are supported to stay where they are they shouldn't end up in temporary

Commencement — Clause 2

Clause 2 provides that the Act would come into operation 6 months after Royal Assent. Is this an appropriate period to allow for preparation and implementation?

No

Please explain your answer.:

No it should be processed sooner shouldn't be that difficult to change to a payment or support plan rather than the current system or process

Suggested amendments

Please identify any specific amendments you would suggest, including the relevant clause where possible.

A textbox for adding comments:

Support for tenants as soon as they fall behind with rent it shouldn't have to wait until it gets to the threat of eviction.