

Response ID ANON-2C9X-7R7P-P

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-08-19 14:50:41

Introduction

1 Confirmation of having read the Northern Ireland Assembly Committee's Privacy Notice.

I confirm that I have read the privacy notice.

2 What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

3 What is your email address?

Email:

[REDACTED]

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

Organisation:

5 The Committee for Infrastructure has agreed to publish all responses as part of the survey results. If you would like to have your survey results anonymised and for us not to publish your name or organisation, please indicate so here.

I would like my views to be anonymous and understand that my name and organisation details will be withheld, along with any identifiers in the response, but my views will still be published.

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

6 Do you agree with Clause 1 of the Bill?

No

7 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

The reality is this will be a one sided piece of legislation. There will be no removals in Nationalist areas due the the risk of public disorder. This is clear from the fiasco over the Bobby Sands statue and the continued presence of IRA murals through out West and North Belfast.

If you want this to work you would have to correctly fund and man the PSNI to deal with the fall out which just isnt going to happen.

Clause 2: Sensitive places

8 Do you agree with Clause 2 of the Bill?

No

9 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Again there is not the resourses to do this.

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:

As we constantly see across all platforms in NI they are dominated by anti unionist sentiment and it is quite bitter. Having a public forum will only lead to more issues unless you are required to provide your Licence or passport with proof of address to stop this.

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?

Yes

15 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Again without resources the PSNI can not manage this.

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:

This again could not be resourced. With 6.5k police most of who are not in local policing a growing population it just isn't possible.

There were over 13000 police both regular and reserve in 2000 giving a rough figure of 1 officer per 140 people across Northern Ireland PSNI sits at roughly 1 officer per 303 people.

Or 12008 officers for 1.63 million in 2000 or 6376 for 1.9 million today. Expecting the police to do more with less is a terrible idea.

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Unsure

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

No information provided

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

No

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I do not agree with this Bill.

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: