

Response ID ANON-3B7W-2D4A-E

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-08-06 18:40:52

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:

A government body should not have the power to police and strip public identity. These ideas are no different to those that started the troubles, creating barriers between nations rather than bringing people together.

If there was an LGBT flag or emblem on display this bill would allow the stripping of people's identities.

If a Christian parade was to be organised with flags of the cross, this bill would allow the stripping of Christian identities.

When we celebrate Remembrance Day this bill would allow the stripping of peoples identities.

There are several historical flags on display within churches across Northern Ireland remembering those that fought for freedom during both wars. This bill would allow the stripping of emblems that stood for reminding people of doing the right thing for our neighbours.

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:

As with my earlier response, I don't think a government body should police public identity.

While I personally don't like the look of certain areas which have either the union flag or the tricolour, these are still social identities and need to be respected rather than being dismantled.

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:

If a single unionist were to drive through the falls road once, see the tricolour being flown down every street, if they were to then submit a complaint to get it removed out of hatred of their Irish neighbours, then have a panel from the government decide on it.

Would the governing body be complicit in deepening segregation of the public by removing public identities?

Would the governing body be promoting social cohesion by removing flags/emblems on the back of motives of hatred?

If this situation was for LGBT, Christian, Palestinian, Israeli, or other identifying flags or emblems, would the governing body be causing segregation or fuelling hatred?

Clause 4: Code of Practice

12 Do you agree with Clause 4 of the Bill?

Unsure

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 don't know what level 3 on the standard scale is

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:

No one should feel threatened at work, and the police are there to enforce the law.

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Unsure

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I can't recall what was in clause 7

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 don't think that this bill should be in effect, so the time lines aren't relevant to me.

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:

I can't recall the title of the bill