

Response ID ANON-3B7W-2D6H-Q

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-08-03 21:42:43

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:
Stephanie Allen

3 What is your email address?

Email:

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

Organisation:
na

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 am content for my information, including details of my name and organisation, to be published in the survey results.

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:

I do not believe that certain flags and emblems should be allowed to be hung in public places, for example paramilitary flags shouldn't be allowed to be hung on lampposts or excessive British or Ulster flags hung around housing estates. The Sydenham bypass on the 12th was ridiculous with hundreds of British and Jesus is king flags. Especially as they seem to be hung in response to anti immigration issues. Same with the anti immigration banners placed in parks etc.

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:

Main arterial routes such as Sydenham bypass and cregagh road should not have the amount of flags that it has. It is completely unnecessary, makes the street look ugly as they end up being dirty and it is not welcoming for anyone apart from loyalists. Northern Ireland is a mixed country which nationalists, loyalists, and people who don't swing either way. It's not fair or right that one part of the population is allowed to hang their flags and intimidate people. I know people who have complained to the council and the police about flags being hanged outside their homes and no action is taken. Flags and emblems should not be allowed in parks, schools, leisure centres etc.

Clause 3: Procedure for / notification of, or giving views on, flags or emblems

10 Do you agree with Clause 3 of the Bill?

Yes

11 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

When people want to paint murals on wall they need to get permission, I believe it should be the same with flags. People are allowed to put up dozens of flags without any permission and others get no support and even get threatened when they try to take them down. It would also be good to know how this process is done.

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:

A code of practise must be done to ensure that the relevant people who need to take the flags down are held accountable to do that.

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:

I agree with this. Repercussions are necessary to ensure people take this seriously.

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:

100% agree. Some people who put up flags are very aggressive when they are taken down. I have seen online a group called our nothern Ireland voice who said someone took down their flags and they wanted to know who did it so they could get their own back which is clearly a threat.

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Yes

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Sure

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

Unsure

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I would prefer it to come into place earlier to be honest.

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: