

Response ID ANON-3K5H-9Y8Z-Y

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-08-29 14:04:16

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?

Yes

7 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

It is clear that at present no one wants to take responsibility for removing flags where they are unwanted/intimidatory/offensive. Legislation is required. This is long overdue.

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 go up in my local park every year and nothing is ever done about this. It is completely unacceptable. Public places should be neutral, equally accessible, welcoming to all. Putting up paramilitary flags is a hate crime but any flags or emblems which make people feel unwelcome, intimidated or threatened is also not acceptable.

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:

People feel helpless because no-one currently will take responsibility for controlling the illegal display of flags and emblems. To take action personally is to put yourself at risk (I have experience of this). There needs to be legislation to place a duty on relevant departments and psni to act. There needs to be policies and procedures on how to deal with requests to erect the flags, etc and how to express objections or support in a way that is fair and safe.

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:

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:

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Yes

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

Yes

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

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: