

## Response ID ANON-4E2E-6K3W-U

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence  
Submitted on 2026-09-12 12:58:51

### 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:

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:

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:

Common sense. It's obviously a major issue currently that it is seemingly no-ones responsibility to remove flags/emblems. I'm from the [REDACTED] where the Police stated in 2014 (given demographics of the area) that any more flags put up in the area would be treated as a breach of the peace. The PSNI never enforced this, so we're left if some "community agreement" on flags. This is not fit for purpose as firstly, there is no entity that represents the Nationalist community here. On some years if fallen on Bredagh GAC to make an agreement with the local orange order. Bredah is not even based on the Ormeau road and should not be responsible for agreeing a local flag policy. Moreover, any such agreements are straight up ignored by the tiny local loyalist community and inevitably we're left with flags up year round. This is particularly frustrating on sunnyside street. Nice, mixed (though majority nationalist these days), safe area. We're in September though and the street is still lined with flags. As this street is largely terrace housing, the flags give a horrible loyalist-ghetto aesthetic that is not at all representative of the area.

### 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 are used to mark territory so really I'm against then being flown in public spaces full stop. I accept that is currently unrealistic in hardline areas, so this seems a reasonable step in the interim

### 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:

Again seems logical compared to the current option of making a complaint to the PSNI which will go absolutely nowhere

#### 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:

Again logical. We need a clear set of guidelines

#### Clause 5: Offence of obstructing the Department in removal of flag or emblem

14 Do you agree with Clause 5 of the Bill?

No

15 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

If there is a code of practice in place that is being broken, and therefore the council/police are moving into to remove the flag/emblem, then the penalties for unobstructing said process such not be limited to a fine.

I would view that as a serious offence, and a literal offence to the wider community.

#### 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:

That answer is so obviously "yes" that the question has me rolling my eyes.

Mobs should not be allowed to overrule the rule of law. If they are attempting to, then the police need to give assistance.

Basically they should do what they already do for Republican bonfires - but not just for Republicans.

#### 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?

No

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

As previously mentioned, in my area the police said they were going to treat flags being put up as a breach of the peace in 2014. We have waiting long enough so I am against have to wait until 2028.

Granted, im probably underestimating steps and processes involved in actually getting this into law

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: