

Response ID ANON-4E2E-6M3U-U

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence

Submitted on 2026-07-27 17:35:19

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:

There is a statutory duty to comply with the bill. Flags and emblems must be legal, restricted to their appropriate communities and only be visible for an appropriate time

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 and emblems must only be displayed where they can reasonably be expected not to cause offence. The presence of these items in general does not present a good image of NI particularly when flags become dirty and tattered

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:

Advance notification of the erection of flags and emblems is essential rather than having to deal with them after the event. A threshold for objections must be set beyond which they must be removed

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:

This timeframe seems reasonable albeit unlikely that a code of practice will be adhered to in advance of any bill being passed

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:

If there is no enforcement of the bill it effectively becomes useless

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:

It is hoped that communities buy into the bill however if normal enforcement is not possible then the police must intervene

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Unsure

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Interpretational differences can lead to ambiguity in the right to enforce the clauses within the bill. As far as possible, terms must be absolute or definitive

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

Yes

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

The timescales would appear to be sensible

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:

Looks reasonable