

Response ID ANON-4Y5H-9P9V-2

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-08-04 15:40:39

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

This clause provides a clear statutory duty for the Department to address the display of flags and emblems in public places where it is in the public interest to do so. It establishes a transparent framework for decision-making, ensuring that relevant factors are considered while helping to promote shared public spaces, community safety, and consistency in enforcement.

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:

This clause is supported as it seeks to protect shared and essential public spaces from displays that may cause intimidation or undermine community cohesion. By identifying sensitive locations, it helps ensure that public services and shared spaces remain welcoming, accessible, and inclusive for everyone.

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:

This clause is supported as it encourages transparency, public engagement, and early dialogue around the display of flags and emblems. Providing a voluntary notification process and opportunity for public feedback will assist the Department in making balanced, informed decisions while taking account of both cultural expression and the wider public interest.

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 clause is supported as it ensures that clear guidance is developed to support the consistent and fair application of the legislation. Requiring consultation with key stakeholders and regular review of the Code of Practice will help ensure it remains balanced, effective, and responsive to changing circumstances.

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:

This clause is supported as it provides an appropriate mechanism to ensure that flags or emblems can be removed safely where there is a risk of disorder or obstruction. It also helps protect those carrying out enforcement actions while supporting the effective implementation of the legislation.

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:

This clause is supported as it provides a clear and phased timetable for the implementation of the Bill, allowing sufficient time for the necessary guidance, administrative arrangements, and stakeholder engagement to be put in place before the enforcement provisions come into effect.

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: