

Response ID ANON-5N6N-3R6C-5

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-07-31 14:04:20

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:

I have no issue with flags being used on St.Patricks Day or Battle of the Boyne public holiday to mark the occassion however they should be taken down after, in certain areas they are designed to be territorial. They should be able to be removed without fear of backlash from those who are putting them up, they do not have the right to make decisions for the community

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 is absolutely right, they should not be displayed in areas used by all sections of the community, these places should be completely neutral and welcoming to people of all backgrounds and faiths

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:

I think this also right, many Flags are put by a small minority of people and they are designed to make a political statement in my opinion, they don't care about the views of others in their communities and those who disagree can face very serious backlash for speaking out against it, an online portal will allow them to put forward their views anonymously and allow the authorities to take action if needed

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:

I do support this however I do not think that any Code of practice will be abided by by those putting up certain flags in certain areas, they are designed to be territorial and make a statement

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 absolutely support this, however as mentioned previously the people responsible for these flags are bullies and possibly paramilitaries, I don't think they will be afraid to use violence and intimidation against the authorities, I liken this to the authorities trying to intervene when Bonfires are built oversized and highly unsafely who are met with hostility and violence

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:

As mentioned previously those responsible for a lot of the flags being erected use violence and intimidation to stop people in their communities complaining, they believe that they are above the law and I feel that the only way to protect people removing the flags will be from the Police, although it is a further drain on their time and resources!

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Yes

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Agree with this

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

Yes

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Agree with this

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:

Agree with this