

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-09-14 16:52:43

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?

No

7 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I am of the view that flags and emblems should not be attached to public street furniture by unauthorised individuals or organisations, and therefore the default position should be that they are removed, irrespective of the flag, emblem or location.

If this were the case there would be no need for the test as to whether "it is in the public interest to do so" which will give rise to challenges and increased community tension.

I consider that if we are to develop a more integrated and pluralistic society, the unauthorised display of flags and emblems on street furniture is detrimental to achieving this.

Clause 1 sets no timescale for the removal by the Department. This should be stated and it must be done without delay.

Clause 2: Sensitive places

8 Do you agree with Clause 2 of the Bill?

No

9 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I consider that the use of the term "the Department may regard the following as a sensitive place" is too weak and should be more emphatic i.e. "the Department will regard the following as a sensitive place".

Northern Ireland has for too long been a divided society. These locations are used by an increasingly diverse community that should not be subjected to being discomforted by the territorial demarcation that is predominantly the reason behind the erection of these flags and emblems.

Clause 3: Procedure for / notification of, or giving views on, flags or emblems

10 Do you agree with Clause 3 of the Bill?

Not Answered

11 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Clause 4: Code of Practice

12 Do you agree with Clause 4 of the Bill?

Not Answered

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?

Not Answered

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?

Not Answered

17 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Not Answered

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

Not Answered

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: