

Response ID ANON-6Y6N-3R4X-4

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence

Submitted on 2026-08-17 11:59:03

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:

Yes, the terror supporting flags are horrendous and intimidating for locals and tourists. British flags are usually dangerous attached to poles, lampposts and traffic lights. Not only could this fall (especially those fixed with duct tape) the way they are put up is dangerous. I've seen young men and children up ladders that are not supported and often the supervision includes drinking alcohol. These are flags are tasteless sectarian graffiti at best and intentional intimidation of the local community designed to promote idea that strong men and gangs still govern the streets. Often they are left to tatter and the waste it damaging the local environment.

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:

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:

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:

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

14 Do you agree with Clause 5 of the Bill?

Unsure

15 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I agree in principle but the bill should make clear that intimidation of those trying to remove the graffiti is not tolerated. This is a common excuse made by council employees for not removing terrorist supporting flags and murals. The law must be enforced and have sufficient deterrent to stop aggression, intimidation and delay of removal. If fines are not found to be sufficient as deterrent, the deterrent must be enhanced sufficiently.

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:

Yes, a PSNI escort is absolutely required where necessary as the safety of staff is paramount. Often staff cannot remove offensive material because they are threatened. The PSNI should not be corrupt and must carry out the law without fear or favour.

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Unsure

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:

It should be enforced far sooner, i.e., commencing at the very latest 2027.

Clause 9: Short title

22 Do you agree with Clause 9 of the Bill?

Unsure

23 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible: