

Response ID ANON-7P3V-5N3Q-Q

Submitted to Display of Flags and Emblems - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-08-11 10:56:25

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 feel that these flags and emblems are placed more to mark out territory rather than for any show of "nationality". The flags remain on lampposts until they decay and or are destroyed by the weather elements. Never being removed or taken down again.
I mostly view these flags as intimidatory. the people who erect these signs on street furniture, care not a jot about what local people feel about their areas being defaced.
In an environment where we are trying to promote a more positive inclusive culture to foreign visitors and external countries, we should not permit these sectarian displays to fly unchallenged.

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:

In my opinion there should be no public infrastructure used to fly sectarian flags in any location.
At the very least they could be erected pre demonstrations / marches and taken down afterwards.

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:

Most flags are erected without any reference to the local area concerns or the people resident in these areas. Many are erected on main arterial road routes. they should be removed by the authorities.

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:

Permission / approval should be sought to erect any flags. They should not be erected on PUBLIC road / pavement furniture.

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:

Absolutely.

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:

Public authorities should be involved in the removal of illegal or unapproved flags being erected.

There just seems to be a very softly, softly approach.

Clause 7: Interpretation

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Yes

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

full clarification is important so as people understand and support this legislation.

Clause 8: Commencement

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

Yes

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

I would be delighted to see legislation becoming law to enforce a code of conduct on these people who erect flags in public places. "public space" belongs to everyone not the few.

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:

Necessary.