

Response ID ANON-9Q4X-7N6A-J

Submitted to Tree Protection Bill - Call for Evidence
Submitted on 2026-07-30 07:28:18

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?

Please provide information to support your answer.:
Jane Christie

3 What is your email address?

Please provide information to support your answer.:
[REDACTED]

4 If you are providing a submission on behalf of an organisation or business, please state its name.

Please provide information to support your answer.:
N/a

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.

Clause 1 - Tree preservation orders: councils

6 Do you agree with Clause 1 of the Bill?

Yes

7 Please provide information to support your answer here:

Accessible:

The wealth of scientific evidence of how important trees are to human survival

Clause 2 - Provisional tree preservation orders

8 Do you agree with Clause 2 of the Bill?

Yes

9 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

The overwhelming scientific evidence of how important native and ancient trees are to human survival.

Northern Ireland has the smallest percentage of ancient woodland in Europe. It is imperative for the wellbeing of our people, wildlife and ecosystem that we protect and prioritize our ancient trees.

Clause 3 - Penalties for contravention of tree preservation orders

10 Do you agree with Clause 3 of the Bill?

Yes

11 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Often people just cut down our ancient trees and say "Whoops, sorry", after the fact. If there are no serious penalties to prevent this it will carry on happening.

Clause 4 - Replacement of trees

12 Do you agree with Clause 4 of the Bill?

Yes

13 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

We must replace the trees we cut down. Northern Ireland has one of the lowest native woodland in Europe. We must prioritize increasing this.

Clause 5 - Council to inspect replacement trees

14 Do you agree with Clause 5 of the Bill?

Yes

15 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Increasing woodland must be supported by and actively encouraged by the council

Clause 6 - Enforcement of duties as to replacement of trees

16 Do you agree with Clause 6 of the Bill?

Yes

17 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Yes, it is the duty of the council to prioritise tree planting

Clause 7 - Tree Protection Map

18 Do you agree with Clause 7 of the Bill?

Yes

19 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Without this map it would be incredibly difficult to identify woodland and trees to protect and uphold the previous clauses

Clause 8 - Determination of planning applications

20 Do you agree with Clause 8 of the Bill?

Yes

21 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

To preserve and protect our ancient trees this is extremely important

Clause 9 - Permitted Development

22 Do you agree with Clause 9 of the Bill?

Yes

23 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

As previous

Clause 10 - Ecosystem services

24 Do you agree with Clause 10 of the Bill?

Yes

25 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

So important to have this wider view and understanding of how important these trees are for our survival and wellbeing as well as our ecosystem.

Clause 11 - Interpretation: 2011 Act

26 Do you agree with Clause 11 of the Bill?

Yes

27 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Agreed

Clause 12 - Interpretation: 2015 Order

28 Do you agree with Clause 12 of the Bill?

Yes

29 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Agreed

Clause 13 - Interpretation: general

30 Do you agree with Clause 13 of the Bill?

Unsure

31 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

Unsure

Clause 14 - Commencement

32 Do you agree with Clause 14 of the Bill?

Yes

33 Please provide information to support your answer here

Accessible:

As soon as possible