



The Chairman
Committee for Infrastructure
N.I. Assembly
Room 416
Parliamentary Buildings
Stormont
Belfast

5th August 2026

Ref: Warrenpoint Harbour Dump

Dear Sir /Madam

Although I live in Rostrevor I do all my business in Warrenpoint and can testify to the ongoing and long-term presence of overpowering odour, plagues of flies and pollution of the water in Carlingford Lough.

Last week I was walking on the Warrenpoint pier. It was a beautiful, warm day and the sea was very calm. I looked down into the water and wondered why there were so many leaves floating on the surface. On closer inspection it turned out to be trails of sludge coming from the harbour and settling up against the pier where it segmented into leaf-like shapes. I found this very alarming.

What we have on the docks at Warrenpoint is a Dump. It may be wrapped in pretty parcels and painted to blend in, **but a dump nonetheless**. It grows in size every week, and seems to stay there for a long long time. These bales are exposed to the elements and the sludge that's produced, with help of gravity is going directly into Carlingford Lough. As this neglectful operation continues " How long before Carlingford Lough becomes victim to the same plague of algae that has overtaken Lough Neagh ? Climate change is not going away. The Mourne Mountains have already lost thousands of acres because of a warming climate.

The argument put forward for this operation to continue is the millions of pounds that it brings to the economy, but how many billions of pounds will it take to clean the Lough when it goes the same way as Lough Neagh?

What happens to the reputation of being a designated "Area of Outstanding Beauty? . When this pollution starts affecting the marine eco system, how long will the lough be part of the " European Natura 2000" ?

It is also a European SPA (Special Protection Area) for birds. As well as an MCZ - Marine Conservation Zone and many other protections that I'm sure you are already aware of.

I oppose this ' Harbour's Bill' that gives more power to what has proved to be a cowboy operation, riding roughshod over the local community, who were never consulted about having a putrefying dump sitting on the harbour walls of their town.

At the very least postpone, postpone, postpone to see what the long term ramifications are going to be on the marine environment which by then will involve European standards and subsequent fines which seems to be the only thing that acts as a deterrent.

Yours sincerely



Rita Byrne