

Daly to Fight Extension of Special Areas of Conservation in Kenmare

I have been in contact with the Department of Environment regarding the proposed expansion of Special Areas of Conservation in Kenmare. Concerns have been raised by many local people regarding the unreasonable enlargement of these areas. This will cause severe hardship for farming and building if the proposals go ahead as planned. I will ensure that the concerns of the people of Kenmare will be represented when decisions on this are made.

HSE Changes Position on Kenmare Hospital

On the 1st April 2008, in response to a letter by Transition Year students from Pobail Scoil Inbhear Scéine, the HSE confirmed that they are examining the option of providing a totally new hospital for Kenmare.

On speaking to people in the town, I have discovered that many are concerned that this is a delaying tactic of the HSE. This contradicts the pre-Election promise that the extension to the Kenmare Hospital would be included in the Capital Programme of the HSE for 2007-2013. I have written to the Minister for Health to ensure that the extension is built.

Kenmare Mobile Phone Mast Discussed in Seanad

Eileen Daly's long running campaign regarding the health effect of mobile masts and phones paid dividends this month. The European Environmental Agency sent her a report which urges the Government to implement the Precautionary Principle.

This principle means that in the absence of proof as to the health risks of mobile phone masts and phone the Government should err on the side of caution and insist on the highest possible standards.

I raised the issue on the Order of Business in the Seanad and have made contact with the Minister for the Communications, Eamon Ryan, the Minister for the Environment, John Gormley and all Green Party elected public representatives. I want to ensure that Ireland takes every possible precaution to protect the public health.

Director of Transport to Come to Kenmare to Discuss Traffic

The Director of Roads and Transportation from Kerry County Council will come to Kenmare at my request to discuss traffic in the town on Railway Road. It is hoped that the council will implement measures to alleviate the ongoing situation of heavy summer traffic.

Council to take over maintenance of April Drive

Working with the local residents in the Lodge Wood area, I have proposed that Kerry County Council take charge of the April Drive Estate. I have been in contact with the Director of Corporate Services to ensure that the Council honour its obligations under current legislation to take responsibility for the estate including the roads and green areas.

Council Area Engineer to Report on Reen na Gross

Following representations to the council on their responsibilities as leaseholders on Reen na Gross, the Area Engineer is preparing a cost estimate for works required. This will allow funding to be allocated. Great credit is due to the Tidy Towns Committee and The Park Hotel amongst others for the maintenance of this amenity; however the council must pay their share of the costs of up keeping this valuable amenity resource.

Senator Mark Daly is always available to the people of Kerry and can be contacted at anytime on 086-8032612 or Mark.Daly@oireachtas.ie Senator Mark Daly

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