



NEWS RELEASE

COLIN BREED MP

Date: Thursday 3rd March 2005
Embargo: Immediate

LOCAL MP URGES DUMPING AT WHITSAND TO CEASE IMMEDIATELY

Colin Breed, Liberal Democrat MP for South East Cornwall today (3rd March 2005) wrote to the Ministry of Defence requesting that all dumping in Whitsand Bay by the Ministry cease immediately.

In a letter to the Rt Hon Adam Ingram MP, Colin Breed MP asked that the dumping should at least cease until the environmental report currently undertaken by CEFAS (Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science) is published in the near future.

Mr Breed commented,

“It is crucial that the MOD give my constituents some assurance that the environmental issue of dumping at Whitsand Bay is being taken seriously.

“The dumping has clearly contaminated the area and in the light of the Royal Naval Dockyard application approved by DEFRA earlier this year, I would like direct action to be taken by the MOD now.”

ENDS

For further information please contact Aimee Parnell

Email: parnella@parliament.uk

Phone: 020 7219 2588

Notes to Editors:

1. Text of letter to the Rt Hon Adam Ingram MP below;

The Rt Hon Adam Ingram MP

Ministry of Defence
London
SW1A 2HB

3rd March 2005

Dear Adam

Whitsand Bay – MOD Dredging

Whilst I was pleased to learn that no environmental damage had been sustained to the River Tamar following the cancellation of the RAFT project, you will be aware that my principal concern was for the environmental damage continuing to be caused to Whitsand Bay in my constituency.

I understand that a study is being undertaken by CEFAS into the effects of continued dumping of dredged material in Whitsand Bay which is due to be published shortly.

Could I please request that all further dumping by the Ministry of Defence and its agents or contractors ceases until that environmental report is available for consideration. I hope that when the report is published a full statement of future intent, in the light of that study, will be made by the Ministry of Defence.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

Colin Breed MP

2. Link to CEFAS website <http://www.cefass.co.uk/homepage.htm>
3. Link to website <http://www.whitsandbay.org> – a local website devoted to the beautiful area of Whitsand Bay - it was conceived by a group of anglers, divers, conservationists and local councillors to discuss the dumping of waste in Whitsand Bay, an issue which Colin has campaigned on for the past 4 years.