

Letter sent today from Sydney to @MichaelCreedTD asking for the consideration of oyster farm licences at Ballyness bay to be stopped and the natural beauty of the area to be preserved. Although I currently live away from home, I and many others have a stake in the future of the bay. Debate focusing on economic and environmental factors is important... [See More](#)

Dear Minister Creed,

I am writing to you today from Sydney, Australia in relation to the proposed granting of oyster farm licenses in Ballyness Bay, Co. Donegal. There are several social, economic and environmental reasons as to why this should not go ahead, and I'm sure the amazing community organisations will be highlighting these to you at every opportunity. My argument against this development is of a more personal nature.

Ballyness bay was the backdrop for my childhood, I saw it every morning before school and watched the sun set over it at night before I went to bed. I walked the beach, I swam in the sea and had some of my most carefree moments running at high speed through the marram grass of the dunes. Throughout the growing pains of adolescence, the bay remained steadfast, its beauty unaltered and enduring.

Like all rural communities in the north west of Ireland, Falcarragh has weathered so many challenges. Throughout this, it's in dominatable spirit has waged on. The connection of this perseverance to the iconic beauty of the land cannot be underestimated. People and communities are strong here but key to its survival in its current form is the very space you seek to industrialise. We cannot allow our bay, our anchor, our stronghold and our refuge to come only secondary to economic gain.

The current residents of Ballyness are custodians of the land in which we live. The memories of the people we have loved and now lost is strongly connected here. The future well being of generations yet to come will depend on how we treat it today and the lengths we go to, to ensure its preservation.

I am asking you to put the essence of a community first, to look outside financial gain and understand the unquantifiable worth of this beautiful area to its people. Human beings are soothed,