Alab, Info

From: Kathleen O Brien [redacted]
Sent: Sunday 25 October 2026 15:09
To: Alab, Info
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Hi,

As a local resident, I wish to express my strong support for the granting of oyster and clam farming licences in Ballyness Bay. I believe this presents a valuable opportunity to support local employment, strengthen our economy and protect the future of our Irish-speaking community.

A living Gaeltacht needs a thriving local economy. Our Irish language is at the heart of our identity, culture and heritage. For it to survive and flourish, young people need opportunities to live, work and raise their families in their own community. Too many leave Donegal in search of employment. Local oyster and clam farming could help create jobs, support families and sustain the vibrant Irish-speaking community that makes this area so special.

Oysters also have an important natural role in the marine environment. As filter feeders, they remove suspended particles, including algae, from the water as they feed. Under suitable conditions, this process can improve water clarity and contribute to the natural functioning of coastal ecosystems. Oyster beds can also provide habitat for other marine organisms, supporting biodiversity.

I believe oyster farming offers an opportunity to combine local economic development with the productive use of our coastal waters. With responsible management, it can contribute to a sustainable local industry while recognising the importance of maintaining the health and quality of Ballyness Bay.

We should embrace opportunities that support our people, strengthen our rural economy and give our young people a reason to remain at home.

I wholeheartedly support the granting of oyster and clam farming licences in Ballyness Bay. This is an opportunity to support local livelihoods, preserve our Irish language and help build a brighter future for our community.

Our language needs a living community, our young people need local opportunities, and our bay has the potential to support both people and nature.

Yours truly,

Kathleen Mc Gee