

Sub ①

**From:** Patricia Mccafferty [mailto:patriciamccafferty@ireland.com]  
**Sent:** 05 May 2009 12:00  
**To:** Wexford Receptionist  
**Subject:** RAW SEWERAGE ON BLUE FLAG BEACH BUNDORAN, Co. Donegal, Ireland.

Dear Sir,

I do not know how Bundoran in County Donegal Ireland gets the blue flag status as over the last twenty years the town has allowed raw sewerage into the shorefront and public beach. In 1999 the local school carried out tests that confirmed the fears of what local surfers were saying.

<http://www.irishscientist.ie/youthscience/p207b.htm>

or from the Surfers magazine

"To illustrate this scenario, take for example Bundoran Peak. It is no secret that the Peak is particularly prone to pollution incidences. This was highlighted in 1997 during the European Surfing Championships held at The Peak in Bundoran when the problem became nationally and internationally apparent: "the bay was seriously polluted, most of the surfers, from Ireland and from other countries, wouldn't get into the water" (ISA, 2004)." 10 years on and nothing has changed.

Raw sewerage was pumping out onto Bundoran shorefront on the busy holiday weekend 3rd and 4th may 2009. Visible was human excrement and toilet paper pumping out of a burst pipe beside the Tourist office from Sunday and all day Monday. On Sunday I tried to contact the Council but there was no answer, I eventually got through on Monday, but nothing was done. The town had approx 5000 people in hotels, apartments and holiday homes, therefore the sewerage pumping house was overfilled. and the pipe the Council use to push the sewerage out to Sea burst. I thought only towns of less that 2000 got away with not having a treatment plant. Bundoran Town Council has promised a treatment plant for the last twenty years, but nothing has happened. [http://www.bundoranfirebrigade.com/Bundoran\\_Town.html](http://www.bundoranfirebrigade.com/Bundoran_Town.html) states the town has 30 to 40thousand people coming to Bundoran each year.

Bundoran Town Council have not developed their infrastructure with the mass build of holiday homes, apartments and hotel rooms. Poor planning has lead to the beach being polluted. This weekends spill is just 20ft from the bradog river that was polluted with an oil spill last year. I do not know how Bundoran gets the Blue flag? Surfers are continually giving out about the water quality around the beach and shore in Bundoran. This summer there is no public toilets open at the beach and there is always a bad odour around the poor capacity pumping house all of which, is in breech of the requirements for Blue Flag status.

Regards,  
Patricia McCafferty.

Independent Candidate Donegal County Council and Bundoran Town  
Council.  
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