

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday 9 February 2021 14:11  
**To:** WildBirdDeclarations  
**Subject:** Seagulls.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to make a submission to your Consultative Committee on seagulls.

I am by no means in favour of causing any harm to these or any living creature but the situation here has got out of control and is affecting people's every day lives.

There has been an ongoing problem in the housing estates beside the sea in Balbriggan for several years since the Ballealy dump closed.

The urban seagulls moved inland to forage for food and have been causing havoc in and to the community since.

They are vicious and have become increasingly aggressive towards people, many of whom are totally afraid of them.

I know only too well the problems in areas like Hampton Cove and Fancourt Heights for children and the elderly, in particular, which have been caused by these birds.

Some have been injured in the face and head as the seagulls have swooped down on them.

They have viciously attacked defenceless people and have taken food from their hands.

The damage to people is the most serious aspect of this problem and there is no doubt that action needs to be taken to curb their activities.

I know that local and national politicians have pleaded the case for curbs on seagulls but so far with little response from officialdom.

A derogation to allow nests to be removed has brought a small improvement in the situation but this has meant elderly people putting themselves in danger by climbing onto their roof to remove the nests.

Damage has been caused to property, including houses and cars, and the situation has become quite intolerable.

Many people who live in this area work in the airport and other industrial centres and use heavy and potentially dangerous machinery in their jobs.

It is essential that they get their proper sleep to be fresh for their jobs but this sleep is regularly interrupted from early morning by the noise of the seagulls on their rooftops.

It is a similar problem experienced by taxi drivers and bus drivers on shift work and working unsociable hours who have their sleep routinely disturbed at different times of the year.

The problems caused by seagulls in this area are very well known to the authorities, yet they consistently fail to do anything substantive to address them.

I would urge you to put the welfare of citizens before the protection and conservation of birds, important though that may be in its own right.

If you do not do so, there is an ongoing risk of damage and danger to ordinary people whose lives are being adversely affected.

Please act before it is too late and somebody is seriously injured, or worse, by these increasingly menacing seagulls.

Yours sincerely,



Sent from my iPhone