

**President: Rt.Hon. the Lord Randall of Uxbridge Kt.PC.**



Dear (xxxx)

The rivers of the Colne Catchment are cherished by the communities they flow through.

However, the catchment is increasingly suffering from the repeated release of raw sewage under licence from the Environment Agency, and to an extent you may find both surprising and alarming.

Recently, there has been a disturbing trend towards allowing water companies to self-regulate the monitoring of discharges from sewage treatment works – effectively leaving them to mark their own homework. We have already observed the disturbing consequences of this: numerous pollution incidents recorded across the catchment, with few, if any, repercussions.

This is a problem that our member organisations and supporters (who between them represent tens of thousands of people) are very concerned about. Information on some of the issues facing the network of rivers in your constituency can be seen at <https://www.colnevalleypark.org.uk/caring-for-our-rivers-in-the-colne-valley-park/>

We are writing to you and the other MP's whose constituencies cover the Colne Valley Regional Park, to ask you to support the forthcoming Private Member's Bill to tackle river pollution from untreated sewage and improve water quality. This bill will be introduced by Phillip Dunne MP on Friday 13th November.

Please reply to [stewart.pomeroy@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:stewart.pomeroy@groundwork.org.uk) to let us know if you will support the bill. If you need any further background information, or wish to discuss the situation further, please let us know.

Your sincerely

**Colne Valley Park Community Interest Company**

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