



**Narrow Water Bridge
Community Network
PRESS RELEASE**

The NWBCN welcomes the declaration of support from the Deputy First Minister, Martin McGuinness, at the Newry Chamber of Commerce Business Lunch held on Friday last. The chairman of the NWBCN, Mr Jim Boylan said he and his committee are delighted that more and more people see the Narrow Water Bridge as a stand-alone project. The bridge will provide a critical piece of infrastructure, absent for too long, which will create an economic lifeline to struggling communities around the lough. There are major sustainable tourist opportunities, such as walking and cycling, for the Carlingford Lough area to which the Narrow Water Bridge is key. The bridge will serve as the natural interconnector between Gullion, Cooley and Mourne.

An exceptionally well-attended fundraising event held recently at the Whistledown Hotel in Warrenpoint was clearly testament to the fact that the need for the bridge at Narrow Water continues to be fully recognised by the people of the area. He emphasised that the demand for the bridge was genuinely cross-community, cross-border and non-political.

As the NWBCN prepares to step up its campaign in advance of the review of the project to be undertaken as part of the Fresh Start Agreement, Jim Boylan also welcomed the support received from the local political parties over the past couple of weeks. Particularly encouraging from South of the Border was the indication from Fianna Fáil in their political manifesto that the party was prepared to contribute €20 million towards the project.

Jim Boylan says his committee is determined to have its voice heard in the forthcoming review and has set its sights very much on the North South Ministerial Council which will table the matter at its June meeting.

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