

To: Waterford Boundary Committee

I would like to express my strong opposition to any proposal to extend the boundary of Co. Waterford into Co. Kilkenny. I do so for the following reasons:

1. I am very proud of my identity as a Kilkenny person. This is something that I do not want to lose. Any extension of the boundary will take away that sense of belonging to County Kilkenny which all of us living in the county feel strongly about and is replicated across every county in Ireland.
2. Kilkenny County Council, both through the Elected Members and Executive have shown a willingness to cooperate with neighbouring Local Authorities in developing infrastructural project in the region, such as:
 - a. The relocation of portal activities to Belview allowing for an improvement in the Cityscape of Waterford City.
 - b. A €10,000,000 water services investment in the region that supports increased housing commercial activities.
 - c. Capital investment in the development of the Apex Swimming Pool in New Ross by Wexford County Council
 - d. An agreed demolition and site clearance plan with Wexford County Council for the former Albatross fertiliser plant which sits on the boundary between both counties.
 - e. The investment by Kilkenny County Council in Waterford Regional Airport.
 - f. The elected members of Kilkenny County Council have initiated a substantial number of meetings over the last few years with our neighbouring councils to continue this cooperation and plan new projects.
3. Kilkenny County Council has made significant investment in South Kilkenny in the recent years and the citizens of Kilkenny and neighbouring counties are now benefitting from this investment.
4. There are huge financial implications for all of County Kilkenny if the boundary proposal is advanced. There will be a huge loss of rates, LPT Tax, planning and development contributions and other fees and charges to County Kilkenny.
5. I am very proud and content to live in Co. Kilkenny. I do not wish to live in any other county.

FURTHER COMMENTS:

