To: Waterford Boundary Committee

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

1. There have been many examples of co-operation between Kilkenny County Council and the former Waterford City Council plus the newly formed Waterford City and County Council so if co-operation was possible in the past it can be again in the future.

2. Changing a boundary is no solution. It is divisive. I am from County Kilkenny and proud of it and have no wish to see our county boundary and citizens moved overnight from one county to another. It would be a very harsh and inappropriate way of dealing with what are mainly council related issues. Any proposal to alter the boundary would split religious parishes and sporting catchments such as the GAA. People would not only move counties but would also move provinces as a result of this boundary alteration which would result in a double loss of identity for people in this area. This would also greatly impact on the viability of sporting clubs and organisations in the area. A boundary extension of Waterford city & county into county Kilkenny would mean that part of the Diocese of Ossory would now be in Munster. This could not be right or just.

3. This proposal would greatly damage the spirit of co-operation that needs to exist if Waterford is to prosper as a 'Gateway' city for the entire South East Region. The interests of Waterford City would be better served by developing this relationship on a partnership basis, which would be a shared interest in each other's progress. I consider that a boundary review is unwarranted and unnecessary given the current level of co-operation between the local authorities and the potential for future co-operation in the delivery of services and growth and employment in the area and the region generally. Kilkenny County Council is fully competent to provide all the necessary services in the South Kilkenny Area in an efficient manner and to co-operate with Waterford in developing Waterford City as a Gateway city. I am strongly opposed to that part of South Kilkenny moving into a different county and province.

Signed: Margaret Kampion

Email address: [redacted]