

**Waterford Boundary Committee,
C/o The Secretariat,
Waterford Boundary Review,
Waterford City & County Council,
The Mall,
Waterford.
14-January-2016**

Dear Sir,

Re Proposed Waterford City Boundary Extension

I wish to put on record my opposition to the proposed boundary extension of Waterford City in to South Kilkenny.

There are a number of grounds for my objection which I list below;

1. **There has been no explanation for the need for the boundary extension** – Waterford city already has a large reserve of agricultural zoned land within its existing boundaries & sufficient residential zoned land to fulfil it's projected housing needs to 2030. Why is this boundary extension required?
2. **There is no demand for the extension amongst the people living in the designated areas** – if democracy is to have any meaning then it has to be seen to have it's say – the people living in the designated area do not want the boundary extension granted.
3. **The boundary extension if it goes ahead will have a large negative financial impact** on Co. Kilkenny due to loss of rates, property tax etc etc. Kilkenny Co Council has suggested that the general rates in the County will have to increase if the boundary extension goes ahead, Waterford Council has also stated that it's rates will have to increase if it gets the extension . Simply put if the extension is granted then everyone's commercial rates increase – lunacy!
4. The boundary extension if it goes ahead will erode the reasons for co-operation between the two counties. **The best course for Waterford to pursue if it wishes to become the regional capital is to co-operate with the neighbouring counties.** The Government

spatial strategy recommends that, let that alone common sense demands that!

5. The proposed boundary extension proposes to move county and provincial borders and crosses Diocesan boundaries. This will have a huge impact on the sense of identity of the people living in the area. The provincial and county boundaries have been established for centuries and are embedded in peoples sense of cultural affinity and identity and are of great value to people – why damage them?
6. The extension if granted will place sporting clubs in two local council areas – Kilmacow & Slieverue GAA clubs for example will have catchment areas in both Waterford and Kilkenny – who do they apply to for local council sports funding ? Confusion to no purpose!

In summary as I see it there is no demand for this extension, no explanation as to why it is required and if granted the extension will only serve to diminish the co-operation required to allow Waterford City develop to it's full potential.


Yours sincerely,

Rory Williams

~~14/1/16~~

Kilmacow

Co. Kilkenny

14/1/16


