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**From:** Brian O Keeffe [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 January 2016 15:51  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Online Submission : Waterford Boundary Review (Brian O Keeffe)

Name: Brian O Keeffe

Email Address: [brian.okeeffe@vahoo.co.uk](mailto:brian.okeeffe@vahoo.co.uk)

Daytime telephone number : [REDACTED]

Area in which you reside. Specific addresses are not needed. South Kilkenny

Question 1 How might alteration of the boundary help or hinder the retention or creation of employment and the general economic performance of the area? The extension of the Waterford boundary will allow for sustainable planning and development for the people of Waterford & south Kilkenny through one council, that been Waterford Council. Kilkenny council had given planning permission and allowed the building of two shopping centres within a mile of each other despite objections from Waterford & New Ross Councils and the Waterford & New Ross Chamber of Commerce. The core objection to both shopping centres was the potential negative impact they will have on both New Ross & Waterford City if they realised their ambitions and opened with full tenancy. As you are aware both shopping centres have remained closed, with a significant cost to the irish tax payer.

The square footage of Ferrybank Shopping centre is 75000 sq ft,. built at a cost of E100million.

The square footage of Ross Abbey shopping centre is 30000 sq ft, built at a cost of E20million and sold through NAMA for E225,000. Total area of both centres is 105,000sq ft. To put this in context City Square in Waterford is 59,309 sq ft.

Question 2 How might the alteration of the boundary help or hinder the identity or cohesion of local communities in the area? No impact, just because I'm now inside the Waterford boundary does not mean I'm no longer a Kilkenny man.

Question 3 How might alteration of the boundary help or hinder delivery of services by local government to ensure that the needs of the local community are met now and in the future? Because the Ferrybank area is administered by two councils it creates duplication and to the detrement of the locals competition at a micro level, meaning the people of Ferrybank/waterford will lose out.

Question 4 How might alteration of the administrative boundary help or hinder the need to maximise efficiency and value for money in local government? The potential benefits for the people of Ferrybank are the strengthening of local government, elimination of administrative duplication, improved service delivery, greater efficiency, economies of scale and more cohesive and effective economic development”.

Question 5 How might alteration of the boundary help or hinder the Planning and Development needs, as administered by the local authority, of the community? One authority deciding what is best for the region, the development of the two shopping centres (now in NAMA) was solely allowed to maximise rates for kilkenny Council, to the detriment of the people of Ferrybank and Waterford

Question 6 How might alteration of the boundary help or hinder the delivery of effective and accountable democratic representation? I'm living in South Kilkenny but I have to vote in the Carlow/Kilkenny local and national elections for candidates not always familiar with the area or our needs. During the bye election last year I was reading literature

from candidates relating to Carlow IT. St Lukes Hospital (Kilkenny City). The Smithwicks Brewery (Kilkenny) though very relevant to the people in those areas, there not important issues for myself. In Ferrybank I'm literally five minutes from the centre of Waterford city. This is where I and the vast majority of the residence of South Kilkenny make their living and would like to have a say in the election of local and national politicians.

Question 7 What strengths or weaknesses do you see in current local authority administrative boundary arrangements in the area? Not enough co-operation, in my opinion parish pump politics and flag waving are the order of the day.

Is there anything else you wish to add ? The key objective for the Waterford boundary extension is the promotion of Waterford City as a the major city. To ensure it remains the key driver for the regional development location in the southeast of the country.

Two separate authorities would lead to more divergent and potentially conflicting views on what is best for Waterford/south Kilkenny. Planning for balanced economic and social development would become more difficult.

Waterford Council have built the majority of social housing within the Ferrybank area over the previous 15 years to accommodate the expanding population of Waterford and South Kilkenny.

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