

From: Damian O Neill [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 December 2015 21:47
To: Boundary Review
Subject: Boundary

Hi All,

As a Waterford man domiciled approx' 1/4 mile over the boundary I am totally in favour of a boundary extension.

All my life is centred on Waterford, I have worked there all life, my children's education to date has all taken place there, all my shopping and social activity takes place there.

As a modern country we need to look to the future and have imagination to secure the best possible future for all our children. Surely an united administrative body would serve the city best.

We have had two fractious bodies working in opposition to one another for to long now and where has it gotten us.

Any Waterford person who comes to reside in Kilkenny is not suddenly going to become a Kilkenny person overnight or vice versa. A large percentage of those living in the housing estates of Ferrybank don't or will never consider themselves Kilkenny people.

Financially one extra manufacturing facility would overcome any economic downside to an extension.

If Waterford does well so will all the surrounding areas and hopefully reduce or eliminate the need for economic migration which has effected the region so badly in recent times.

Would people prefer that there children emigrate or be able to remain within their own communities and see them prosper.

As part of a minority geographically within the Carlow/Kilkenny Constituency there is no sense of belonging or political engagement as you are not entitled to vote in the constituency that affects your life the most.

Ferrybank area is totally neglected on this basis with Public Services being non-existent. Politicians are only seen around here come election time and even then it is extremely rare with only one candidate calling for the last general election. I am not aware of any benefits to me directly from a social, public service, economic, amenity or any other function that is provided by Kilkenny County Council.

This area is totally neglected as "allegedly part of Kilkenny", it is in name only.

Anybody coming from different areas of the country or further afield will be unlikely to form an allegiance to Kilkenny and this group might be worth canvassing as they don't have any baggage in regard to county allegiances and would be more objective about how this should being handled.

The entries to the north of the city from the main national thoroughfares are totally under developed and don't promote the city as an attractive destination due to the fact that they aren't controlled by the Waterford Council.

How can Waterford prosper if our nearest neighbours don't promote this part of the constituency equally.

The majority of employment for people from South Kilkenny is provided in Waterford and many children are educated there also. Being proud of where you are from is a natural instinct and surely the moving of a boundary is not going to change any bodies allegiance to where they consider themselves to be from. Sport whilst an important recreational activity and source of great tradition evoking strong feelings of identity is only a small consideration in the big picture. Surely a resolution to any fears on this front could be arrived at.

Parts of this constituency are nearer Dublin than Waterford and as such it is both unreasonable and illogical to expect public representatives to have Waterford's best interest at heart given the local nature of politics in Ireland . It wouldn't be tolerated in any other area of the country.

Media coverage and debate of political life is completely non-existent as you are neglected on the one hand and prevented on the other from engaging on the other. This vacuum is detrimental to our community and we are stuck in the past and brave decisions need to be made.

For the region to prosper as it should the success of Waterford to attract visitors and foreign investment will be best served by a united administrative body with a single vision which is best for us all.

