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Sent: 19 November 2015 18:22
To: [REDACTED]
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Subject: Online Submission : Waterford Boundary Review (Kieran Ryan)

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Daytime telephone number :

Area in which you reside. Specific addresses are not needed. 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? Alteration of the boundary will massively hinder the creation of employment and the general economic performance of the area. All businesses in South Kilkenny are naturally connected to other businesses in Kilkenny, if this area became Waterford, these partnerships would be heavily affected and cease to continue. For example, Kilkenny has a proud food offering and it has become commonly place to see products advertised as made/produced in Kilkenny. These products then sell due to the local attachment as the money will find it's way back to a Kilkenny based area and help improve the economy of Kilkenny. These relationships are not as established with Waterford and as a result, businesses would suffer greatly, and so too, the economy.

Question 2 How might the alteration of the boundary help or hinder the identity or cohesion of local communities in the area? A change in the boundary would destroy the identity and cohesion of local communities in the area. At the heart of every community, is a GAA Club. If you ask any Kilkenny person, they know the feeling of travelling to each of these clubs. These clubs also know the feeling of travelling to clubs in Kilkenny. There is pride, passion, tradition and history between these clubs. If taken, all this is gone, completely obliterated. The local community and it's attachment to other communities around Kilkenny, dies. Young kids will become Gaa players in a different county with immediate affect. With dreams of playing for Kilkenny, they will be told that they are no longer from Kilkenny, they are from Waterford. Supporting the team they love, they will be told that they no longer have a connection to them, they can no longer aspire to be them.

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? The alteration will hinder the delivery of services by local government to ensure that the needs of the local community are met now and in the future. KCC have built up a trust with the people in the area over generations that they will be looked after. They have implemented many changes which have improved the areas in terms of aesthetics, accessibility, business/retail/residential appeal, financial situation and economic situation. WCC will be unable to build up this connection with the Kilkenny people living in this area as it will simply take far too long and be too difficult an undertaking. This will lead to a disconnection between WCC and the Kilkenny people living there who will be forced to comply to new rules and regulations and be forced to try find and build up new contacts and relationships with a different set of politicians which will prove very difficult on local businesses/people.

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 alteration to the boundary will hinder efficiency and value for money in local government. Waterford is in a far worse place than Kilkenny economically and financially. Waterford simply cannot afford to take on more land, they do not have the resources and the initial costs to the change

would be monstrous for them as much would have to be changed. This would lead to a stretched Waterford County Council that would be inadequate and would lead to poorer services and a reduction in their quality around the Waterford County.

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? The alteration would hinder the Planning and Development needs, as administered by the local authority, of the community. As mentioned above, Waterford is in a far worse place than Kilkenny economically and financially. This means that planning and development outlines would be substantially poorer than what Kilkenny is already offering. Kilkenny has always held a continued emphasis on the improvement of the South Kilkenny region and anyone in Kilkenny knows this. There has been huge development brought in by the KCC that has helped the area and improved it. This will not happen with WCC as they don't have the funds for it and don't have the knowledge to implement these changes. There would need to be huge research and planning undertaken by WCC if the boundary changed and this would cost money which WCC don't have.

Question 6 How might alteration of the boundary help or hinder the delivery of effective and accountable democratic representation? Currently, South Kilkenny has very strong democratic representation. Altering the boundary would obviously affect this. This would lead to a completely different political scene as there would be a change in the politicians in power as now, rather than having politicians who try to get the best for their area in Kilkenny, they would be looking on getting the best for their area in Waterford. This would lead to different people voting in different ways and it would take a long time before the South Kilkenny region could ever be properly settled and represented with WCC as there would be no-one on the political scene to which the electorate could guarantee would be able to get the best for these Kilkenny people in Waterford.

Question 7 What strengths or weaknesses do you see in current local authority administrative boundary arrangements in the area? In terms of the boundary currently, the arrangement benefits the people of South Kilkenny much more than if they were part of Waterford. There is simply no need for a boundary commission. No one from South Kilkenny has ever complained as they know that what they have is what's best for them and for their lives. Russia were seen as oppressors by the people of Ireland when they tried to seize part of Ukraine, the only difference here is that the people who live in South Kilkenny want to remain part of the same area. The lives of the people living here will be greatly affected.

Is there anything else you wish to add ? This arrangement only benefits Waterford. It greatly affects Kilkenny, it's people, it's business, it's sport, it's communities, it's relationships, it's sole. What Kilkenny loses, Waterford gains. The people of Kilkenny would never want to part of Waterford. If an alteration were to occur, it should be the reclaiming of land by Kilkenny which was taken so as to benefit Waterford only. We should revert back to the natural boundary of the river, no politics or money involved, just geography. Nobody was ever asking for this boundary commission, not the people of Kilkenny, not the people of Waterford. It is incredibly political to try and seize part of another county. Imagine what would happen if Ireland tried to seize a part of England. That is what Waterford has done and what it wants to do again. Waterford crossed the river and took Kilkenny. Can you imagine Ireland crossing the sea and taking England?

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