

**From:** ~~Mailo Power~~  
**Sent:** 15 January 2016 15:19  
**To:** Boundary Review  
**Subject:** Waterford Kilkenny Boundary

The complicated reality of running a business on the boundary, our first hand experience over the last 12 years has been difficult, the reality is we operate with out the supports received by hotels located in either Kilkenny or Waterford.

In our experience the South Kilkenny in particular the Ferrybank, Christendom area is falling between two stools, and as a result it is represented neither by Kilkenny nor Waterford Councils.

My husband and I purchased Rocklands House in 1999, after a 4 year battle we opened our 29 bedroomed boutique hotel in December 2003. Since opening we have received zero support from Kilkenny County Council. We have battled three times to get planning permission for an appropriate entrance, each time we were knocked. Thousands of euros later we gave up trying.

We tried to get signage in place again this was not successful we were told by the gentleman in question don't even bother applying, yet our guests continue to have difficulty locating us.

The border runs through are garden which has resulted in doing business in no mans land. The area leading to our property is unkept and in a disgraceful condition yet we battle on without support from either council.

We employ 24 people and have put millions into the local economy since opening 12 years ago. In that time we have not received one letter from Kilkenny County Council inviting us to take part in any of their Tourism initiatives. Waterford on the other hand have included us, but we are not included in decision making nor able to host Waterford Council events as we are regarded as in Kilkenny.

Rather than being recognised as the gateway to the largest urban hub of the South East the area is neglected and under represented. I believe that a regional approach should be implemented, local politics aside we should be working together, building on our strengths, after all this is about our shared future, about our well being. We need a strong regional capital.

Yours sincerely

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Director Athenaeum House Hotel  
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