

From: Neil O'Rourke [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 November 2015 21:47
To: Boundary Review
Subject: Boundary review submission

To whom it may concern:

I'm a Sales Operations Manager with Lidl Ireland GmbH but I'm writing in a personal capacity.

I feel this boundary review makes sense on a number of different levels; social, political and economical.

It makes little sense to have people living within a single urban area to be separated by lines on a map and that the current situation is incompatible with a community. I feel a revision of the boundary would create a better sense of community in the area as the entire would then be a community rather than an urban area in two separate counties. The north city could be allowed, and encouraged, to create the sense of community so evident in other parts of the city that it lacks at the moment mostly, I feel, due to a sense of division in the community that is simply down to a line someone drew on a map.

Following on from the social aspect, it makes political sense. How can a single community be served by two separate councils? A single body governing the area would allow strategic planning for developing of not only amenities and services for the area but create the environment to allow economic development and create jobs in that area. Currently there are two separate councils managing separate parts of an urban area, both of which (quite rightly I might say) have different priorities. This cannot allow for constant governance of a community if different priorities exist on different sides of the same street and it will ultimately be the people who suffer through lack of amenities and services.

Finally, it makes economic sense. Waterford is a gateway city and the economic hub of the South East yet doesn't govern a large section of it's urban area. If the city is to continue to develop it needs to be able to bring all of the urban areas with it and not have to consult with another body over it's urban surrounds. The strategic planning of the city can never be whole if it's not encompassing all areas. Nor does it make sense for the Port of Waterford, a gateway city with a huge maritime tradition, to be in another county?!!

I can think of few arguments to keep the status quo beyond misguided county loyalty and losses of rates receipts for Kilkenny county council.

Regards,

Neil O'Rourke

