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From: Niall Lonergan [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 November 2015 11:26
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: Online Submission : Waterford Boundary Review (Niall Lonergan)

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Area in which you reside. Specific addresses are not needed. Waterford City

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 brand "Waterford" would hold more value internationally and the city has a good reputation put in place by WIT and TSSG. This would make the area more attractive to prospective investors. Some businesses in the area already adopt the Waterford address.

Question 2 How might the alteration of the boundary help or hinder the identity or cohesion of local communities in the area? The identity of the community would be a concern as the general population identify as either Kilkenny or Waterford. The Slieverue area particularly identify as Kilkenny, Ferrybank mostly identify as Waterford.

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? My experience from people living in the region, they are unsure of which council to contact regarding certain services. Some services are provided by Waterford and others by Kilkenny. A boundary extension would assist Kilkenny by taking the burden of services to the region from them allowing them to focus on other areas. This would benefit the population also as they will not have services divided up between councils.

Question 4 How might alteration of the administrative boundary help or hinder the need to maximise efficiency and value for money in local government? Unsure as although Waterford C&CC is much larger it has not to date demonstrated it's ability to be more efficient than Kilkenny CC. In fact, quite the opposite. Waterford C&CC has failed in the development of some fundamental projects within the city boundaries.

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? To answer this question you would need to look at the record of planning and development in both areas. Both Waterford and Kilkenny have allowed developments to go ahead which were an all out disaster. Ferrybank shopping centre under Kilkenny CC and Railway Square under Waterford C&CC. Waterford however has had no progress on any area within the city in a long time. Any committee to review the boundary extension would need to take both councils "past records" to conclude which council is best placed to develop the area.

Question 6 How might alteration of the boundary help or hinder the delivery of effective and accountable democratic representation? Unsure as I have no figures on the population (old enough to vote) in the area effected. However if the area vote strongly in favor of one party or party member than this would effect democratic representation in the Carlow-Kilkenny area. However, if the area maintains a voting pattern similar to the rest of the region than it may make no difference.

Question 7 What strengths or weaknesses do you see in current local authority administrative boundary arrangements in the area? I (like many people from Waterford) view our current council members as being incapable. Kilkenny CC have been much more

successful over the last number of years. This is the result of having much stronger council members than their Waterford counterparts however the financial capabilities of Kilkenny would not be best suited to maximize the areas potential.

Is there anything else you wish to add ? In summary the boundary extension will benefit all parties. Kilkenny CC (judging by their statement of response) are looking at this as some kind of loss and are not basing their response on any "reasonable" facts. I do concede that Waterford C&CC is not a "forward thinking" or particularly efficient council. They do lack personnel capable of even the slightest ability to think anyway critically. However in the long run this will be hugely beneficial to the region as a whole.

On one note however, Kilkenny CC make a very good point. Waterford has absolutely no plan in place regarding Belview. Something that would need to be addressed if such extension was put forward.

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