

18.082

To whom it concerns,

With regard to the upcoming division of local electoral boundaries for the 2019 local authority elections, I wish to make an appeal to the committee regarding the Drimnagh area.

Drimnagh is currently home to roughly 13,500 people according to Census 2016. Our area contains historical sites such as Drimnagh Castle and sports and recreational amenities like Brickfields Park, Lansdowne Valley Park, Galtymore Road pitches and the Iveagh Grounds. There are a number of schools as well as one of the oldest Residents' Associations in the country, dating back to 1936.

However, the area has for some time been split between two local authority areas which has largely resulted in Drimnagh falling between two stool when it comes to funding and focus for development of local services.

At present, there is no library, no swimming pool, no recycling centre and no council offices in the area. The long promised Primary Healthcare Centre, badly needed in Drimnagh, has recently been indefinitely postponed. We have no dog fouling bins and litter bins are scarce on our streets. We have no flower planters to brighten up the area and our bus transport links are badly in need of updating. These are but a small few examples of the neglect that the area has suffered in recent times.

Certainly being split across local authority areas has not helped Drimnagh to grow and prosper and I'd appeal that you strongly consider amalgamating the two halves of Drimnagh into one Local Electoral Area under your redraw. As a local community environmental group, we in Tidy Drimnagh have noticed how the area being split between "Ballyfermot-Drimnagh" and "Crumlin-Kimmage" frustrates development of projects and adds unnecessary confusion at all levels when applying for funding and grants.

The people of the area, both new and old, have a shared identity and a pride of place in the parish of Our Lady of Good Counsel. I would implore the committee to strongly consider reunifying the area into one L.E.A. in your redraw.

Is mise le meas,  
Eoin Neylon

Chairperson / Cathaoirleach  
Tidy Drimnagh / Droimneach Slachtmhar

NB: The area of Drimnagh is the area within the boundaries of the Grand Canal (to the north and east), the Naas Road - R810 (to the west) and the Long Mile Road/Crumlin Road/Drimnagh Road - R110 (to the south). All of this area is contained in the Dublin South Central Dáil constituency.