18.058

RE: LOCAL ELECTORAL AREA BOUNDARY COMMITTEE

Dear Sirs,

I welcome the opportunity to submit my views and those of my constituents to the Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee.

As an Elected Representative for the Ballina Electoral Area, Co. Mayo, and based in Crossmolina, I believe that this review of the Local Electoral Area Boundaries presents a real opportunity to right the wrongs of previous reviews.

In the case of Crossmolina, a parish of 1800 people, a ridiculous and completely undemocratic situation has arisen whereby certain townlands of the parish have been segregated are presently occupying electoral areas other than that of their main town.

Residents of Keenagh, Keenagh More, Corcullin, Tubbrid Beg and Boughadoon who pay their Local Property Tax, Motor Tax, etc, have found that being isolated in the furthest corner of the West Mayo and Castlebar Electoral Areas respectively, has resulted in little or no representation on the Local Authority. These are areas whose natural affinity is to Crossmolina Town and who should now be reunited with Crossmolina Town in the Ballina Electoral Area. (Attached maps) In the Map you will see the boundary of the districts, the Keenagh area is split into the three districts, in total you are talking about 200 people put into the Ballina Area.

In the 5 years since the previous review these areas have been almost totally devoid of service development and/or infrastructural improvement due to a lack of public representation. In the case of Keenagh, the centre of West Mayo Municipal District is some 25km away as is Castlebar.

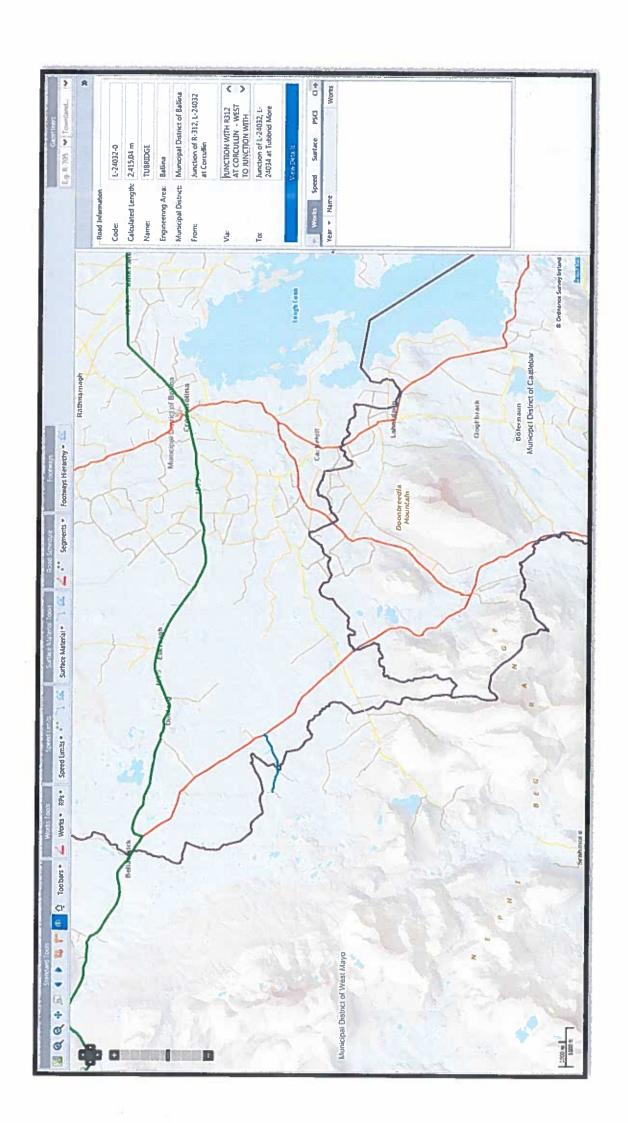
Reunited with their Parish, these areas will receive the benefit of full representation from a Crossmolina based elected representative.

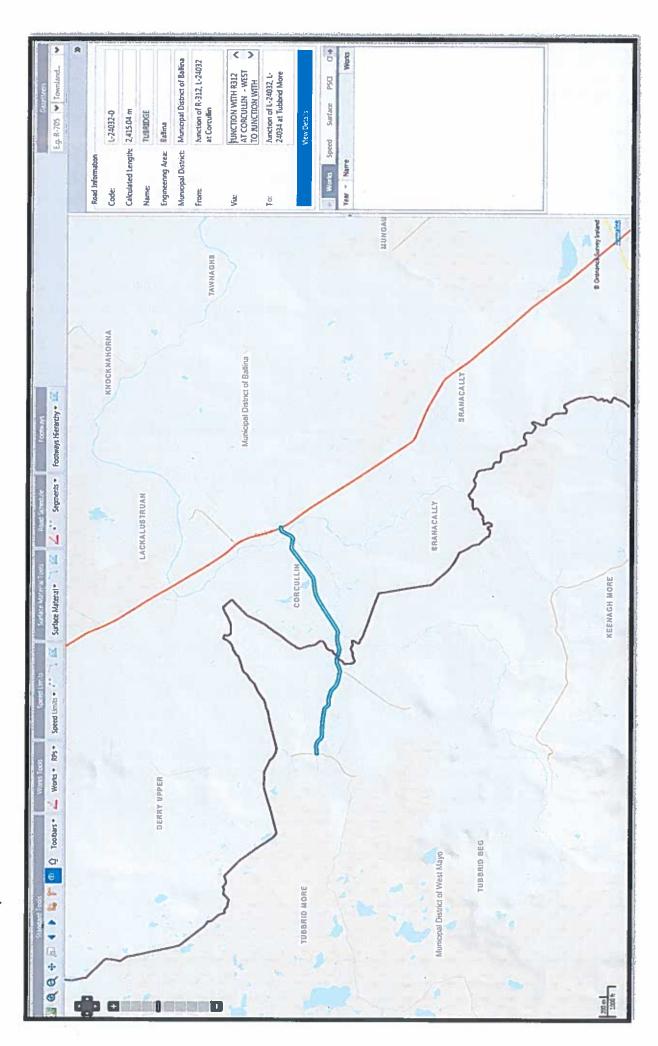
I trust that my submission will receive fair and careful consideration. If you need more information please get in touch I would be delighted to help.

Sincerely,

Michael

Cllr Michael Loftus Ballina Municipal District Mayo County Council





Townland Map 2