

18.102

Cllr. Thomas McEllistrim M.C.C

14/02/2018

Dear Emer,

Looking at the terms of reference for the new Local Elections Boundaries. Tralee Town has a population of 23,691 which is over what is needed (15,000) for a District Urban-focused Local Electoral Area so therefore I believe Tralee Town should have a distinct stand alone Electoral Area comprising of at least 5 seats.

Tralee Rural Local Electoral Area then comprising of Rural Tralee and Castleisland should have a distinct stand alone Electoral area comprising of at least 5 seats/councillors or 6, taking account of local and community identities and linkages. Rural Tralee and Castleisland form a natural hinterland.

Tralee and Castleisland were in the same Electoral Area for the Co. Council and Dáil elections going back to the foundation of the state.

Castleisland Town is 17Km from Tralee Town as opposed to 25km to Killarney Town.

The Castleisland, Cordal, Currans and Kilfelim were put into the Killarney Electoral Area for the County Council and old Kerry South for the Dáil. I believe this was a big mistake as the people in Castleisland, Cordal, Currans and Kilfelim were used to Tralee and the old Kerry North Constituency and their Councillors.

For this reason, I believe the District Electoral Divisions of Castleisland (3,330) in population, Cordal (278) in Population, Currans (271) in population, and Kilfelim (247) in population should in the same area as Rural Tralee Area.

And the Electorate of Currans who vote in polling station of Knockaderry NS as I believe Currans should all be in the one area and Currans should not be divided between The Tralee and Killarney Local Electoral Areas. Also Currans is closer to Tralee (13km) away and Castleisland (7km) away than Killarney (16) km away. I feel Currans should be put into the New Rural Tralee Electoral Area.

Deelis was in the Kerry North Constituency for the 2007 Dáil Election along with Kilgobban and Derrymore. Deelis is 22km from Tralee as opposed to 26km from Dingle. The children of Kilgobban and Deelis go to school together in Aughashla N.S so for that reason I believe that Deelis DED (349) in population should be put into the new Rural Tralee Electoral Area.

Abbeydorney was always in the Tralee Electoral area for the Co. Council going back to the foundation of the state. Then Abbeydorney was put into the Listowel Electoral Area for the County Council. I believe this was a mistake as people in Abbeydorney were used to Tralee and Tralee Councillors and it forms part of the Rural Tralee Hinterland. Abbeydorney is the next village out of Tralee (9KM) compared to Listowel (17KM)away. For this reason, the Abbeydorney DED (1,149) in population, I feel should be put back in with a New Rural Tralee Electoral Area.

Kilflynn Parish is also divided with some of Rural Kilflynn in the Tralee LEA and Kilflynn Village and some of Rural Kilflynn in the Listowel LEA. Kilflynn Village is part of the Rural Hinterland of Tralee. I believe it should be all in one electoral Area of Tralee. Kilflynn Village is 10KM from Tralee and 18KM frm Listowel. For this reason Kilfeighny DED (950)in population should be put in the New Tralee LEA.

Kilmoyley Ardfert is also divided with Baltovin and Lerrig in Tralee LEA and Ballyinorig in with the Listowel LEA. I believe it should be all in the one area-The Tralee Electoral Area as it is in the parish of Kilmoyley Ardfert. For this reason Ballyinorig DED (512) in population should be put into the new Tralee LEA as it forms part of the hinterland of Tralee. It should also be in with Ardfert, Banna and Tubrid which are all part of Ardfert Parish.

In Conclusion, this new Rural Tralee Electoral area comprising of Castleisland should be at least a 5 seater and maybe a 6 seater.

Yours Sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the councillor.

Cllr. Thomas McEllistrim. MCC
Councillor in the Municipal District of Tralee.