



**FRANCES FITZGERALD TD**

**Dublin Mid-West Constituency**

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Secretary,  
Local Electoral Area Boundary Committees 2017,  
Room 1.67 Custom House,  
Dublin 1,  
D01 W6X0.

February 15, 2018

**Re: Submissions to the Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee**

Dear Secretary,

I wish to thank you for your invite to submit to the Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee.

As a representative of the Dublin Mid-West constituency, I wish to express my views on the review of local electoral boundaries, with specific reference to the communities of Saggart and Brittas.

The 2013 Boundary review excluded the areas of Saggart and Brittas from the Clondalkin Electoral Area, placing them instead in the Tallaght South Electoral Area. This decision separated the areas of Saggart and Brittas from the neighbouring communities of Rathcoole and Newcastle. These four communities, known locally as 'The Four Districts' or 'The Villages', have close connections and are part of the same parish. Residents in these communities share community resources and services including schools, community centres, sports clubs, health services, the Day Care centre, shops, pubs, restaurants and more.

I note that the terms of reference of the Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee, states that the committee must consider:

*"Local electoral areas should be designed, as far as possible, around urban villages or have a neighbourhood focal point (or points), taking due account of local and community identities and linkages and the need to facilitate the effectiveness of the governance and representational roles of elected members"*

I would ask that on making their decision, the Committee take into account the need for the four villages of Brittas, Saggart, Newcastle and Rathcoole to be reunited and for them to remain in the same Electoral ward, taking account of their close connections and to support the continued viability of these important communities.

Yours sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Frances Fitzgerald.

**Frances Fitzgerald TD**  
**Fine Gael TD Dublin Mid-West**