

Review of Local Electoral Areas 2018 - Submission to Local Area Boundary Committee No. 2

19th February 2018

Dear Ms. Connolly,

I wish to make the following submission in respect of the Dublin City Council Local electoral area of Crumlin-Kimmage.

I refer to item number 4 in the terms of reference for Committee No. 2 , whereby:

4. 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, including, in particular, the need to avoid designating local electoral areas which are territorially very large or extend over very long distances or over multiple urban villages, or which divide individual urban villages or natural communities

The urban Crumlin Village is currently divided in two which contravenes the term of reference above. The west side of the village is currently in the Ballyfermot-Drimnagh Local Electoral Area and the east side of the village is in the Crumlin-Kimmage local electoral area.

The residents and businesses around the village are currently represented by 12 councillors in two electoral areas which causes confusion for voters and is not conducive to effective local governance of this thriving village.

I would like to recommend that the polling districts of Walkinstown B (population 1885) and Walkinstown C (population 2169) would be brought into the Crumlin-Kimmage electoral area following the current review. For the residents of Walkinstown B and C, their village is Crumlin which is just minutes walk from the roads in these districts. Their local churches, Garda Station, Post Office, shops, Credit Union, Dublin City Council Area Office, and Dublin City Library are all in this proposed new Local Electoral Area which would be more cohesive if it were treated as one.

The new local boundary would become the major roads of Walkinstown Road, Drimnagh Road and Cromwellsfort Road which are major roads and more natural boundaries than a line drawn down the middle of an urban village.

Furthermore, the Local Electoral Area of Ballyfermot-Drimnagh extends across a long distance and multiple urban villages which Term of Reference No. 4 (above) seeks to avoid. Joining Crumlin Village into one Local Electoral Area is a natural solution to all of the aims of Term of Reference Number 4.

I hope that this proposal will be given due consideration.

Yours sincerely

Samantha Long