Dear Committee Member,

As per your terms of reference, I fully support Local Electoral Areas designed around the urban villages of Dublin and taking into account community, local identities and linkages.

In that regard any review of Pembroke-South Dock Electoral Area must take this into account. In the event of a reduction from 8 seats to 7 seats, it is vital that the integrity of villages and communities in Donnybrook and Ballsbridge is maintained where the concept of living community prevails over natural boundary. This would also facilitate the effectiveness of governance and representation by elected members of Dublin City Council of these villages.

In 2009 the splitting of Sandymount Village had a hugely detrimental effect on a homogeneous neighbourhood with the village community confused as to who their public representatives were.

So that the situation that prevailed in Sandymount does not recur, I hereby submit that no change is made to the boundaries of Donnybrook and Ballsbridge in effecting the required reduction from 8 seats to 7.

Yours Faithfully,

Paddy McCartan,