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West Cork Boundary

To Whom It May Concern

After lengthy consultation with local Community groups, locals and business people and having a vast knowledge of this area I feel that for these communities to progress it is vital that the following changes are made going forward.

1 .Ballineen , Enniskeane these are two villages joined together but have 2 separate electoral areas this has led to much confusion by the people of Enniskeane who feel left out of any important decisions as they strongly feel they are West cork I would propose that both these villages would be put into the West Cork district as Balineen is already and also to include Teadies and Bengura and Castletownkenna in this transfer.

2 . All of the Ballingearry area transfer to the West Cork area , at the moment the village is split at the bridge where the West Cork area represents and the Macroom District represent the village and parts of town lands near by. East of the village some 9 km the village of Inchigeela is then in the West Cork area I'd propose to leave this and join them altogether as this is what the People have requested.

3 . Kilmaloda West And East , Timeoleague, Abbeymahon , Butlerstown , Templeomalus and Courtmacsherry stay in the West Cork electoral area these areas have been always associated with the area and the view of the people from the there.

4 . That West Cork be kept as one electoral area but increase the number of members by 2 as it's a large area and since the loss of town councils has had a huge negative effect in West Cork taking in from the Beara , Sheeps Head and Mizen peninsulas . It should also be taken into account the members represent 8 Islands which to get to these Islands needs planning on times of boat services to and from each Island.,

I would like to add that areas like Ardgroom, Eyries, Allihies Castletownbere, Ardrigole, Glengarriffie Mealach Valley are an important part of West Cork and there is a bigger need to have extra representation to make sure communities like these and others have good public representation, it is vital we respect the county boundary it would not be acceptable for areas of Kerry to be moved in to the Cork County are areas from Cork to be moved in to Kerry.

It is hugely important that areas like Clonakilty stay in West Cork for the good of the Community in Clonakilty.

I would like to add that the Skibbereen/ Clonakilty and Schull, Bantry and Castletownbere stay as one Municipal District going forward with extra representation as this is what the communities of these areas want and keeps them working closely together for the greater good of West Cork.

These are the views from me as a Politician and from the Community at large.

Regards

Michael Collins T.D