

**Dublin and Cities
Electoral Area
Boundary Committee
Report
2008**

**An Coiste um
Theorainneacha Toghlimistéir
Bhaile Átha Cliath agus na gCathracha
Tuarascáil
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2008

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Map B - Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal and South Dublin

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Presentation of report to Minister

Mr. John Gormley, T.D.

Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government

Custom House

Dublin 1

Dublin and Cities Electoral Area Boundary Committee Report 2008

Minister

You appointed us on 8 January 2008 to review the arrangement of local electoral areas in the cities of Cork, Dublin, Galway, Limerick and Waterford, and in the counties of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal and South Dublin in accordance with the terms of reference which you prescribed for this task.

On behalf of the Committee, I am pleased to submit to you a completed report of our recommendations in this matter.

Niall Callan

Chairman

Dublin and Cities Electoral Area Boundary Committee

16 June 2008

Glossary of Terms

The Committee	The Dublin and Cities Electoral Area Boundary Committee, established by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government
Electoral divisions	<p>These are the smallest administrative areas for which population statistics are published. There are 3,440 electoral divisions in the State.</p> <p>Electoral divisions are referred to by their established statutory names. In some cases, these names differ from addresses and place-names currently used.</p>
Local electoral areas or electoral areas	Under local government legislation, the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government is responsible for dividing each county and city and certain boroughs and towns into local electoral areas (sometimes referred to as electoral areas) for the purposes of local elections. Generally, a number of electoral divisions are grouped to form an electoral area.
Report of the Constituency Commission	The Report on Dáil and European Parliament Constituencies 2007, prepared by the Constituency Commission (Pm A7/1347)

1 Overview and Summary

Background

The Committee was established by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to review and make recommendations regarding the boundaries and memberships of local electoral areas in eight local authority areas, i.e. Cork City, Dublin City, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal, Galway City, Limerick City, South Dublin and Waterford City.

The terms of reference of the Committee required it to recommend local electoral areas that would –

- have between four and seven members or, in very exceptional circumstances, three members
- ensure a reasonable relationship (desirably keeping variances from average to within + or -10%) between the population established by the 2006 Census and representation within each local authority.

The Committee was also required to take account of a number of factors, including the desirability of having electoral areas that –

- have urban or neighbourhood focal points
- preserve natural communities or the hinterlands of population centres
- are aligned, where possible, with Dáil constituency boundaries
- maintain continuity in relation to the arrangement of local electoral areas.

The terms of reference asked the Committee to assume that there should be no change in the number of members elected to each local authority.

At present, electoral areas in the local authorities under the Committee's remit are arranged as follows:

	Number of members	Number of electoral areas	Number of electoral areas of different size (i.e. number of members)				
			3	4	5	6	7
Cork City	31	6	-	-	5	1	-
Dublin City	52	13	5	3	5	-	-
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	28	6	2	1	-	3	-
Fingal	24	6	1	4	1	-	-
Galway City	15	3	-	2	-	-	1
Limerick City	17	4	-	3	1	-	-
South Dublin	26	5	-	1	3		1
Waterford City	15	3	-	1	1	1	-
Total	208	46	8	15	16	5	2

There has been a substantial increase in population since the last review of local electoral areas in 1998, with population growth of some 10.5% in the eight local authority areas under the Committee's remit. Among these, Fingal has experienced the most rapid rate of growth (+43%) and Galway City has also increased well beyond the national average. On the other hand, the population of Cork City has reduced by 6%. In addition to population changes and the development of new neighbourhoods, the Committee has also had to take account of considerable recent and prospective changes in the boundaries of Dáil constituencies.

The Committee invited submissions in relation to the review and 123 submissions were received, including from local authorities, political parties, public representatives, organisations and individuals. These were most helpful to the work of the Committee.

Recommendations

The electoral areas recommended by the Committee would establish a reasonable relationship between the current population and representation levels within each local authority. In the case of all electoral areas recommended, variations within + or -10% of the local authority average population per member are achieved; in many cases, these variations are minimal. In the case of some electoral areas, the scope

of the Committee to minimise variations has been limited by the need to take account of other considerations, including for example, neighbourhood focal points and population trends.

In summary, the Committee's recommendations in relation to each local authority are as follows:

Cork City

- There should be an increase in the number of members in the electoral areas of Cork South-East (from six at present to seven) and Cork South-West (from five at present to six)
- There should be a decrease in the number of members in each of the electoral areas of Cork North-East and Cork North-West from five at present to four
- There should be no change in the number of members in the electoral areas of Cork North-Central and Cork South-Central (i.e. five members each)
- There should be transfers of electoral divisions involving five electoral areas, mainly to improve the alignment between electoral areas and Dáil constituency boundaries
- All of the electoral areas should be renamed to include "Cork City" in their title.

Dublin City South

- The electoral areas of Pembroke and Rathmines should be merged and have six members
- The electoral areas of South-East Inner City (with the addition of some areas included in the former Pembroke electoral area) and South-West Inner City should each have one additional member (giving four members in each area)
- There should be a decrease in the number of members in an amended electoral area of Crumlin-Kimmage (from five at present to four) and a new electoral area of Ballyfermot-Drumagh should have four members.

Dublin City North

- The electoral divisions in Ballymun-Whitehall electoral area should become part of two new enlarged electoral areas of Ballymun-Finglas and Artane-Whitehall, both having five members
- The number of members in North Inner City electoral area should be increased from five at present to six

- There should be a change to the boundaries of the electoral area of Donaghmede and a decrease in its number of members (from five at present to four)
- Minor changes should be made to the boundaries of the electoral area of Clontarf, while Cabra-Glasnevin area should remain unchanged.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown

- The electoral areas of Glencullen (to be renamed Glencullen-Sandyford) and Stillorgan should each have an increase in membership (from three at present to four)
- The number of members in each of the electoral areas of Ballybrack and Dundrum should be reduced from six at present to five
- Two electoral divisions should be transferred from Ballybrack electoral area, one each to the electoral areas of Glencullen-Sandyford and Stillorgan
- The electoral areas of Dún Laoghaire and Blackrock should remain unchanged.

Fingal

- Mulhuddart electoral area should have a small boundary change and an increase in its number of members from four at present to five
- Swords electoral area should have a small boundary change in the north of the area and retain five members
- The number of members in Balbriggan electoral area should be increased by one to five
- The electoral areas of Howth and Malahide should be merged into a five-member area
- Castleknock electoral area should have a small boundary change and retain its four members.

Galway City

- Galway No. 3 electoral area, with a slight change of boundary, should have an increase in membership (from four at present to five) and be renamed Galway City West
- Galway No. 2 electoral area should be extended to take-in some centre-city areas, retain its four members and be renamed Galway City Central
- Galway No. 1 electoral area should have a slight change of boundary and a reduced membership (from seven at present to six), and be renamed Galway City East.

Limerick City

- The number of members in Limerick No. 1 electoral area (renamed as Limerick City North) should be increased from five at present to six
- Limerick No. 2 electoral area (renamed as Limerick City East) should remain as it is (i.e. with a membership of four)
- The electoral areas of Limerick No. 3 and No. 4 should be merged to become Limerick City South and have a membership of seven.

South Dublin County

- There should be an increase in membership of Lucan electoral area from four at present to five
- Clondalkin electoral area should be extended, principally to take-in the electoral divisions of Rathcoole and Saggart, and have an increase in membership from five at present to six
- A new electoral area of Rathfarnham with four members should be created
- Tallaght Central and Tallaght South electoral areas (both of which have five members at present) should be reconfigured, with Tallaght Central becoming a six-member area and Tallaght South retaining five members.

Waterford City

- Waterford No. 1 electoral area (renamed as Waterford City North) should have a slight change of boundary and retain four members
- Waterford No. 2 electoral area (renamed as Waterford City East) should have a slight change of boundary and an increase in membership from five at present to six
- The number of members in Waterford No. 3 electoral area (renamed as Waterford City South) should be decreased from six at present to five.

The following summarises the Committee's recommended arrangement of new electoral areas:

	Number of members	Number of electoral areas	Number of electoral areas of different size (i.e. number of members)				
			3	4	5	6	7
Cork City	31	6	-	2	2	1	1
Dublin City	52	11	-	5	4	2	-
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	28	6	-	3	2	1	-
Fingal	24	5	-	1	4	-	-
Galway	15	3	-	1	1	1	-
Limerick	17	3	-	1	-	1	1
South Dublin	26	5	-	1	2	2	-
Waterford	15	3	-	1	1	1	-
Total	208	42	0	15	16	9	2

2 Appointment of the Committee and Terms of Reference

Appointment of the Committee

The Committee was appointed by the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to review and make recommendations on the electoral areas in Cork City, Dublin City, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal, Galway City, Limerick City, South Dublin and Waterford City.

At the same time, the Minister established another boundary committee, known as the Electoral Area Boundary Committee, to review and make recommendations on the electoral areas in each county (other than Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal and South Dublin), the boroughs of Drogheda and Sligo, and the towns of Bray and Dundalk.

Terms of Reference

The Committee's terms of reference were as follows:

- 1. To review and to make recommendations, subject to paragraph 2, on the division of the cities of Dublin, Cork, Galway, Limerick and Waterford and the counties of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal and South Dublin into local electoral areas and the number of members of the councils to be assigned to each such area, with a view to ensuring a reasonable relationship between the 2006 population and representation within each local authority. For this purpose, the Committee is to assume no change in the total membership of each local authority and to endeavour, as far as practicable, to achieve variance from individual average local authority representation within the range of + or – 10%.*
- 2. In carrying out its review, the Committee shall have as an objective the drawing up of electoral areas which (alone or in combination) would, as far as practicable, have an urban or neighbourhood focal point (or points).*

3. *In recommending changes to local electoral areas, the Committee should, subject to paragraph 2, take due account first of the desirability of preserving natural communities or the hinterlands of population centres, and secondly of the desirability, where it may be possible to do so, of aligning local electoral area boundaries with Dáil constituency boundaries.*
4. *The number of councillors representing an area as determined above should not be less than 4 or more than 7, provided that in very exceptional circumstances 3 seat local electoral areas may be recommended where otherwise the geographic size of the area would be disproportionately large.*
5. *Subject to the above, the Committee shall endeavour to maintain continuity in relation to the arrangement of local electoral areas.*
6. *The Committee shall submit its report as soon as possible and, in any event, not later than 20 June 2008.*

Membership

The following persons were appointed as members of the Committee:

Niall Callan	Former Secretary General, Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government (Chairman)
Kevin Dowling	Former Executive Manager, Dublin City Council
Adrian Kavanagh	Department of Geography/National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis, NUI Maynooth
Willie Soffe	Former County Manager, Fingal County Council
Theresa White	Assistant County Manager, Cork County Council

3 Working methods of the Committee

General

The Committee was established as a boundary committee under Part V of the Local Government Act 1991. A boundary committee is required, among other things, to –

- be independent in the performance of its functions
- make recommendations in relation to boundaries reviewed in the interests of effective and convenient local government, and
- consult any local authority concerned and invite submissions from any person concerned.

The Committee observed these statutory requirements.

The Committee also adopted Rules of Procedure to assist it in its business; these are set out in Appendix II.

Consultation Arrangements

The methods of consultation undertaken by the Committee were as follows:

- (a) public notice advertisements were placed in early February 2008 (jointly with the Electoral Area Boundary Committee) in four national and twenty-nine local newspapers; and an Irish language version in *Foinse*. A copy of the advertisement is attached at Appendix III.
- (b) a website (www.electoralareacommittees.ie) was established jointly with the Electoral Area Boundary Committee to publicise and provide information in relation to the work of both Committees, to invite submissions and to publish all submissions received.
- (c) submissions were invited (by letters issued on 29 January 2008) from each of the following:

- (i) members of Dáil Éireann and Seanad Éireann
- (ii) the eight local authorities under the remit of the Committee
- (iii) registered political parties
- (iv) three local authority associations (i.e. the Association of County and City Councils, the Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland, and the Local Authority Members' Association).

Having regard to the limited amount of time available to complete its review, the Committee decided that it would not be in a position to conduct oral hearings in relation to its work.

The closing date for receipt of submissions by whatever means was specified as 14 March 2008.

A total of 123 persons and organisations made submissions to the Committee; a list of these is set out in Appendix IV. This is a significantly higher response rate than for earlier reviews of the large urban local electoral areas, and one which the Committee regarded as a positive indication of interest in the present review. The Committee thanks all who took the trouble to make submissions; it found this external input most valuable in completing its work.

Information sought from local authority managers

The Committee's terms of reference included the objective of "drawing up of electoral areas which (alone or in combination) would, as far as practicable, have an urban or neighbourhood focal point (or points)."

In order to ensure up-to-date information on local authority developments or plans relevant to this matter, the Committee wrote on 6 February 2008 to the manager of each local authority under its remit. Managers were requested to indicate, by reference to any major changes in settlement patterns and/or urban or neighbourhood infrastructures since the last review of electoral areas in 1998, as well as to planning and community development objectives currently in force locally, what might properly be regarded as "urban or neighbourhood focal points" within their functional areas. Managers were asked to base their advice on objective considerations, including approved development plans, local area plans or other strategic/policy statements.

Responses to this request were received on behalf of 7 local authority managers. The Committee wishes to record its appreciation of this assistance which has been most valuable in completing its work.

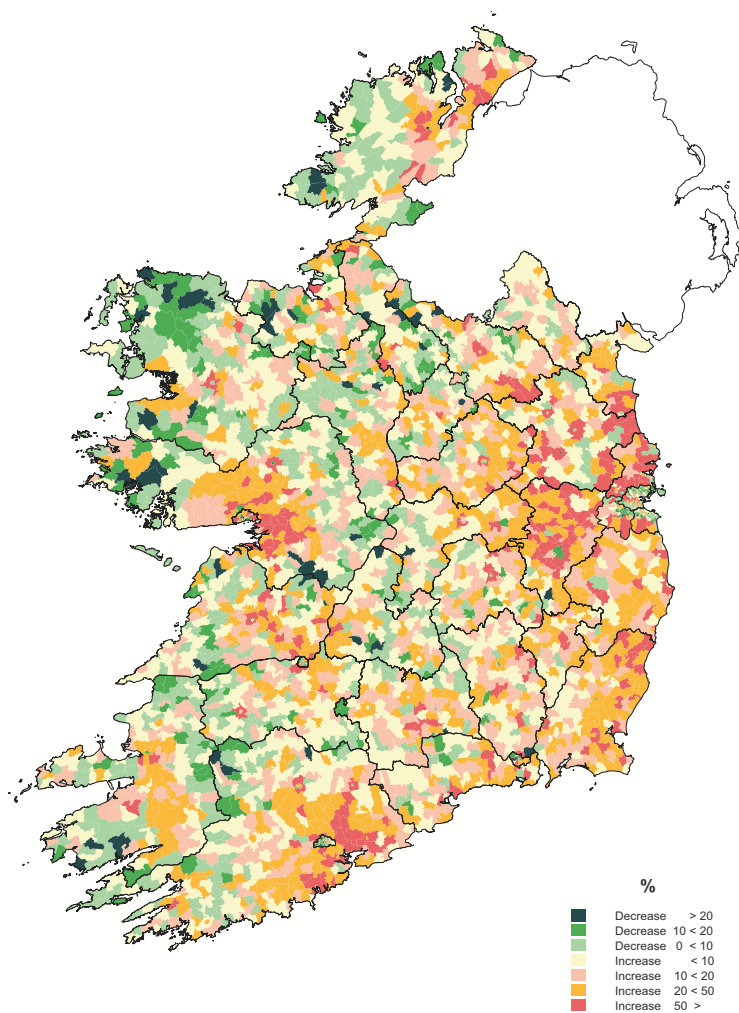
Work of the Committee

In accordance with Part V of the Local Government Act 1991, the Minister provided the Committee with staff to assist it in its work. The secretariat to the Committee was provided by Tom Sheridan, Assistant Principal, Conor O'Sullivan, Higher Executive Officer and John O'Farrell, Clerical Officer. The Committee greatly benefited from the diligent research and high quality support provided by its secretariat; and wishes to record its appreciation of this exceptional assistance.

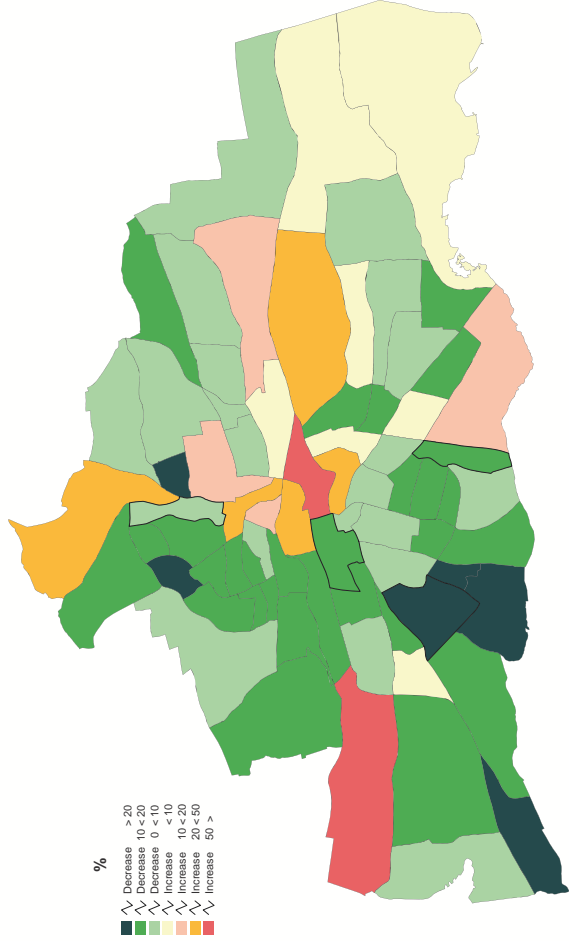
The Committee held 9 meetings between January and June 2008. All matters arising at meetings of the Committee were agreed by consensus, and without the need for the voting mechanisms provided for in the Rules of Procedure.

Part V of the 1991 Act prohibits a member of a boundary committee from participating in the preparation of a report regarding the boundary of an area of a local authority of which he or she is an officer; these circumstances did not arise for the Committee.

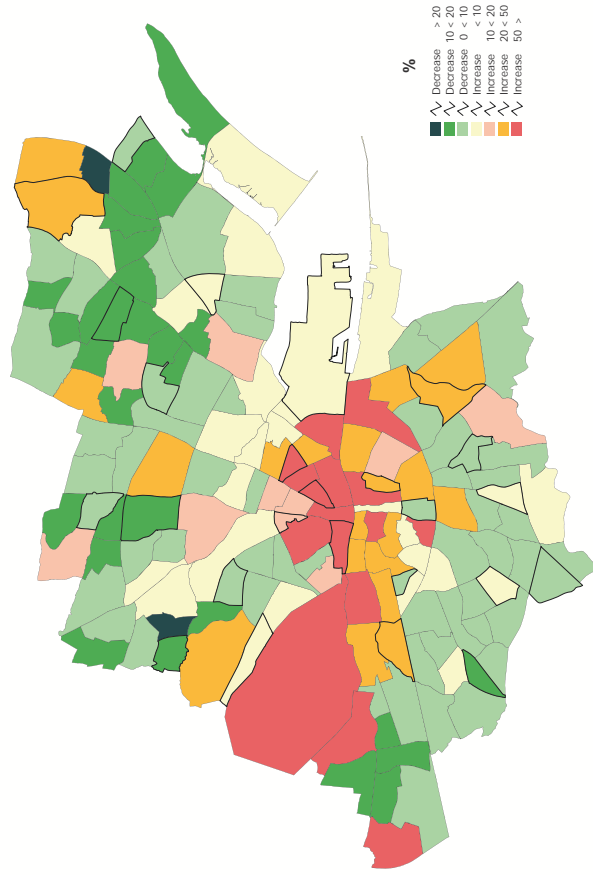
Percentage change in the population of Electoral Divisions, 1996-2006



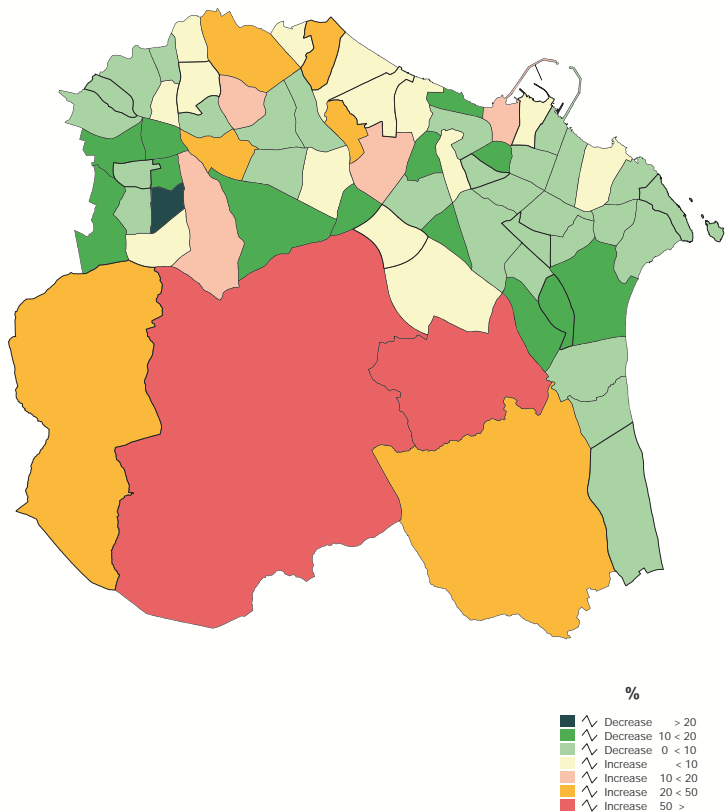
Cork City
Percentage change in the population of Electoral Divisions,
1996-2006



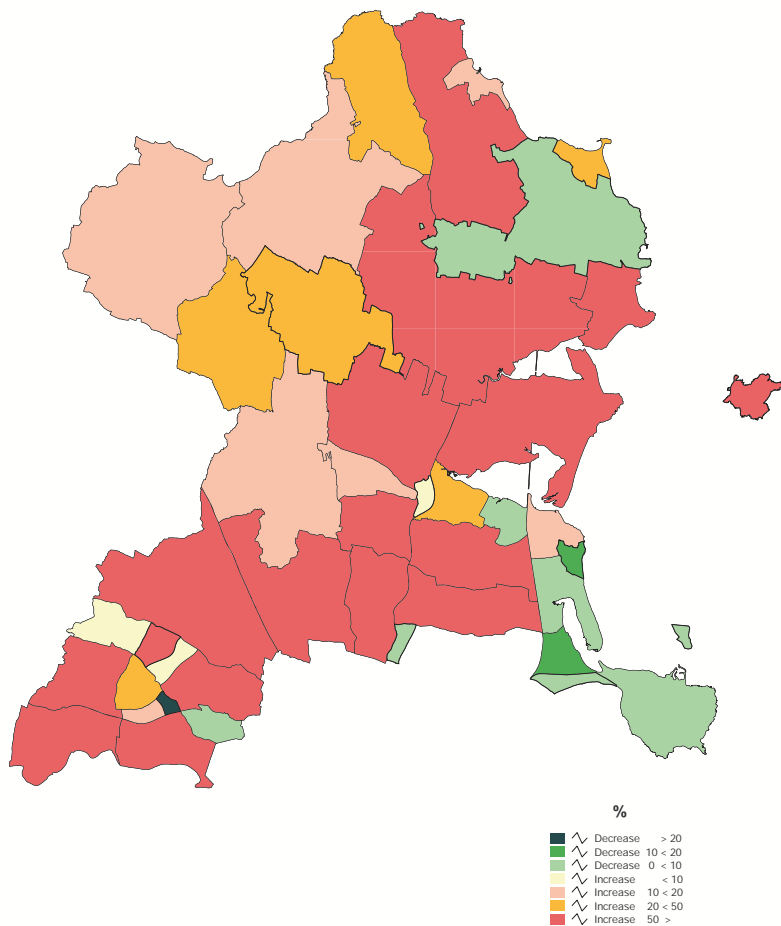
Dublin City
 Percentage change in the population of Electoral Divisions,
 1996-2006



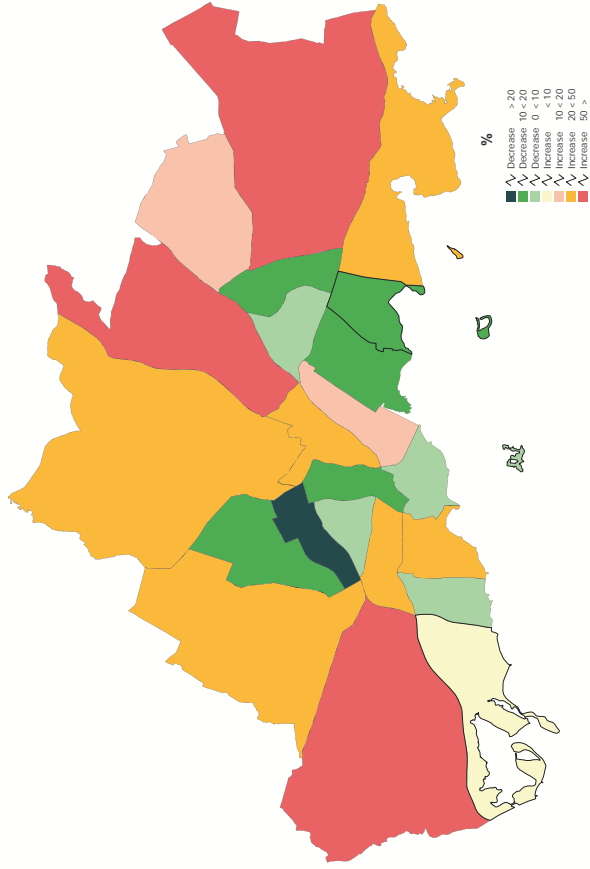
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown
 Percentage change in the population of Electoral Divisions,
 1996-2006



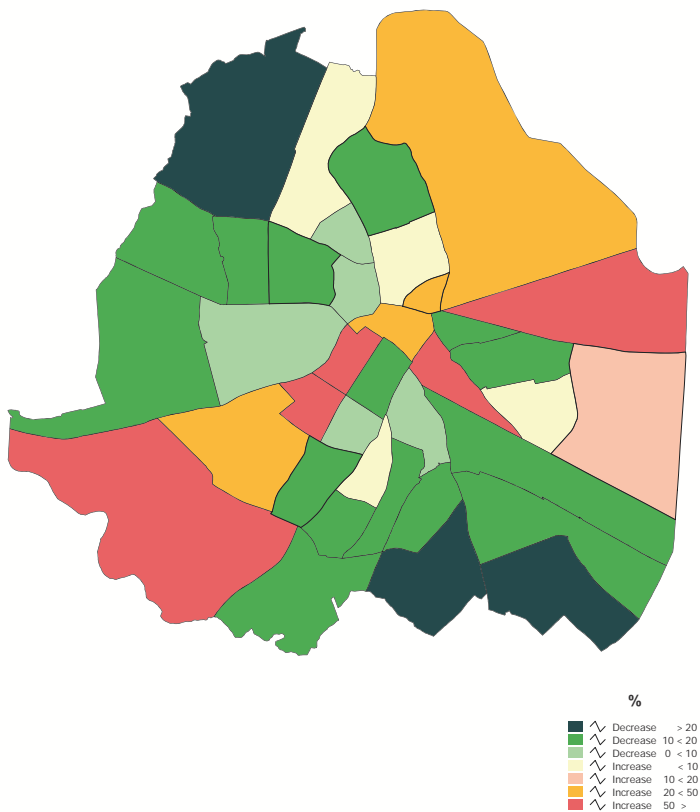
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Percentage change in the population of Electoral Divisions,
1996-2006



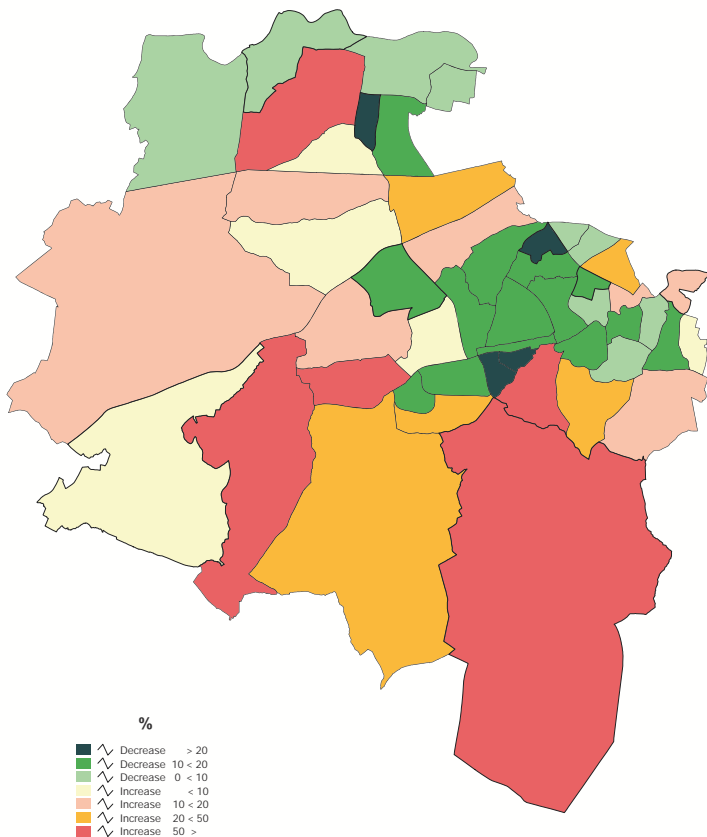
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 Percentage change in the population of Electoral Divisions,
 1996-2006



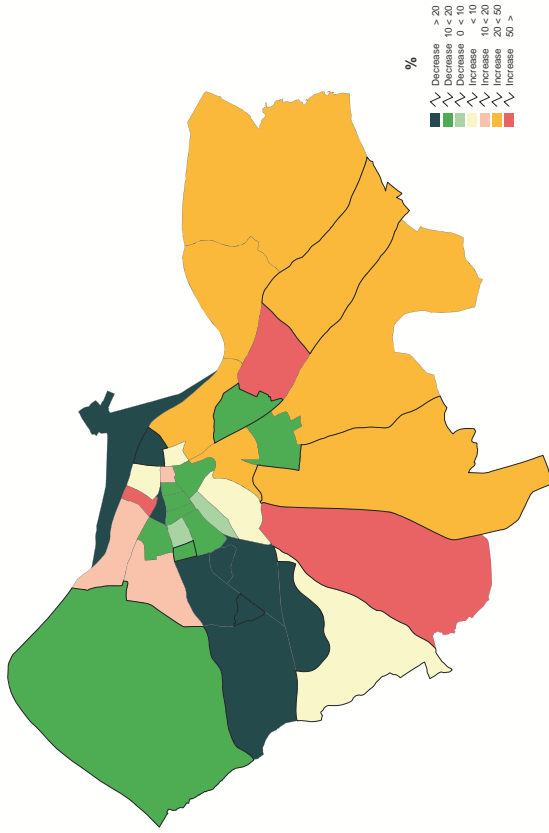
Limeric City
 Percentage change in the population of Electoral Divisions,
 1996-2006



South Dublin
 Percentage change in the population of Electoral Divisions,
 1996-2006



aterford City
 Percentage change in the population of Electoral Divisions,
 1996-2006



4 General Issues

Population Changes

The population of the State increased from 3,626,087 in 1996 to 4,239,848 in 2006, representing an increase of 613,761 or 16.9% in the ten-year period. Population growth has occurred unevenly across the State, with notable variations between, and more particularly within, cities and counties. In the eight areas under the remit of the Committee, the population grew from 1,337,271 in 1996 to 1,477,295 in 2006 – an increase of 140,024 or 10.5%. Of those eight areas, Fingal experienced the most rapid rate of growth, with the population increasing from 167,683 to 239,992 – an increase of 72,309 (43.1%) over the ten-year period. The increase in population in Galway City over the same time period was also well ahead of the national average. However, as is shown in the following Table, the rate of population change in the other areas under the Committee's remit was lower than the national average, and in the case of one area, the population decreased.

Area	1996 Population	2006 Population	Change	Change %
Fingal	167,683	239,992	72,309	43.1
Galway City	57,241	72,414	15,173	26.5
South Dublin	218,728	246,935	28,207	12.9
Waterford City	42,540	45,748	3,208	7.5
Dublin City	481,854	506,211	24,357	5.1
Dún Laoghaire- Rathdown	189,999	194,038	4,039	2.1
Limerick City	52,039	52,539	500	1.0
Cork City	127,187	119,418	-7,769	-6.1

Under the Committee's terms of reference, local electoral area boundary changes are to be determined by reference to population changes within, and not between, the different local authority areas over the period 1996 to 2006. Each local authority area has its own specific pattern of population change. For some city areas, for example Dublin, the largest population increases have occurred in inner-city areas

while in other areas, for example Galway City, these increases have occurred on the outer edges of the city.

Of the population recorded in 2006, over 610,000 persons (14.7%) usually resident in the State were born outside of the State with 440,000 (10.5%) coming from the EU 25 (excluding Ireland). Over 120,000 of the population had migrated to Ireland in the 12-month period preceding the Census. Dublin and the surrounding counties of Kildare, Meath and Wicklow have the majority of non-Irish migrants. In its report on Migration Policy in 2006, the National Economic and Social Council (NESC) stated that –

“Participation in the various levels of the political process is a powerful demonstration of growing integration into the life of a society. Currently, UK citizens in Ireland can vote in all elections other than those to elect the president. EU nationals may vote in European Parliamentary elections and local elections. Non-EEA nationals can vote in local elections. It is important to ensure that people are fully aware of their voting rights and that they are actively encouraged to use the franchise and participate in this vital area of civic life.”

The Committee supports this recommendation of the NESC; we hope that our work will contribute to an active interest across Ireland’s rapidly changing population and society in future local elections.

Analysis of terms of reference

While the terms of reference of the Committee are similar in many respects to those used in previous reviews (see Appendix V), they also contain some additional elements, in particular the requirement to align local electoral area boundaries with Dáil constituency boundaries.

As could reasonably be expected, the Committee found a diversity of conditions and circumstances within the local authority areas under its remit. In practice, the Committee had to weigh and balance the different elements of the terms of reference having regard to the particular situation of each local authority. Where we encountered tension or competition between these different elements in addressing particular issues, we had to resolve this in a practical way, and bearing in mind our statutory duty to act in the interests of effective and convenient local government.

The relative importance we placed on different elements of our terms of reference also varied somewhat depending on local factors and conditions, and having regard to our overriding duty to support effective and convenient local government.

Total membership of local authorities

The terms of reference directed the Committee to assume no change in the numbers of councillors to be elected to each local authority. A significant number of the submissions made to us argued that it was anomalous that the population/councillor ratio in the large urban local authorities was many times higher than in less populous counties; and that some addition should therefore be made to the membership of certain large urban local authorities.

The terms of reference did not permit the Committee to consider or recommend on the merits of any such changes in local authority membership. The Committee would also comment that a strict standardisation of representation ratios across local government (as is required for Dáil constituencies) would be difficult given the very different sizes and populations of counties; and that considerations of deliberative and other efficiency will also influence the size of the membership of local authorities.

Population and Representation

The Committee was requested to endeavour, as far as practicable, to achieve variances from individual average local authority representation within the range of + or - 10% for each electoral area. This has been achieved in all cases, and in many cases, the electoral area population per member would be very close to the average for the local authority. The Committee, in arriving at its recommendations, has sought in each case to minimise the variation from the local authority average while at the same time taking account of all of the terms of reference.

The largest variations from the local authority average population per member arising from the recommendations of the Committee would occur in Dublin City North (-8.33%) and Dublin City South (-8.04%). In the case of some electoral areas, the desire of the Committee to minimise variations has been balanced by the need to take account of other considerations, including for example, neighbourhood focal points and population trends.

Urban or neighbourhood focal points

The Committee had the objectives of identifying local electoral areas that alone or in combination would, as far as practicable, have an urban or neighbourhood focal point or points, and subject to that, take due account of the desirability of preserving natural communities or the hinterlands of natural communities.

While the areas under the Committee's remit were mainly urban in character, three of those areas (i.e. Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal and South Dublin) also contain extensive rural areas with more dispersed neighbourhood patterns. Factual information provided by local authority managers that identified neighbourhood or focal points (see Chapter 3) was available to the Committee. Many of the submissions received also emphasised the importance of neighbourhoods along with issues relating to the delivery of local authority services (including area-based arrangements operated by some authorities) and how local electoral areas should take account of those factors. In developing its recommendations, the Committee took account of this information.

Dáil constituency boundaries

The Committee was required, subject to the objective of identifying electoral areas having an urban or neighbourhood focal point (or points), to take due account of the desirability, where it may be possible to do so, of aligning local electoral area boundaries with Dáil constituency boundaries. This explicit consideration of Dáil constituency boundaries was not required of the last review of the Dublin local authority electoral areas in 1998.

For the purposes of this element of its terms of reference, the Committee considered that it would be sensible to use the prospective Dáil constituency boundaries recommended by the Constituency Commission in its Report on Dáil and European Parliament Constituencies in 2007 rather than those current boundaries that may be subject to revision.

Alignment of local electoral areas with Dáil constituency boundaries is assured in the case of Galway, Limerick and Waterford as all the electoral areas in these cities are contained entirely within a single constituency. The recommendations of the Committee would bring full alignment between electoral areas and Dáil constituencies in the case of Cork City, Dublin City South, and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, and substantially improved alignment in South Dublin. In the case of

Dublin City North and Fingal, the Committee did not find it possible to recommend full alignment with Dáil constituency boundaries, because it considered that this would unduly compromise other elements of its terms of reference and/or its overriding duty to support effective and convenient local government. A more complete explanation of the issues arising in Fingal is set-out in Chapter 5. In spite of such difficulties, the recommendations in all cases seek to maximise alignment between the boundaries of local electoral areas and Dáil constituency boundaries.

A number of submissions argued that the objective of observing neighbourhoods and natural communities should take precedence over the achievement of alignment between the boundaries of electoral areas and Dáil constituency boundaries. The Committee considered these on a case-by-case basis in the light of overall circumstances as indicated above.

Number of councillors representing an electoral area

The terms of reference require that local electoral areas recommended by the Committee should not have less than four or more than seven members except that in very exceptional circumstances three member electoral areas may be recommended where otherwise the geographic size of the area would be disproportionately large. Submissions expressed a range of views on the merits of electoral areas of different sizes and the circumstances in which electoral areas of different sizes are appropriate.

Given the higher population densities prevailing in the (generally urbanised) areas within our remit, as well as the relatively compact size of these areas, the Committee did not find any very exceptional circumstances in the course of its work which would have justified our recommending three member local electoral areas.

There were forty-six local electoral areas under the Committee's remit, eight of which at present have three members. The Committee sought to achieve a balance in recommending, within each local authority, electoral areas of different sizes having regard to all of the terms of reference. The recommendations of the Committee would reduce the overall number of electoral areas by four to forty-two; this reduction is because of the discontinuation of the eight three-member electoral areas and an increase of four (i.e. from five at present to nine) in the number of six-member electoral areas. This is also illustrated in Chapter 1.

Maintaining continuity

The Committee was required to endeavour to maintain continuity in relation to the arrangement of electoral areas. However, change is also required to fulfil other elements of the terms of reference, particularly given the very significant population growth since the previous review of electoral areas. Where the Committee has recommended changes in electoral areas, it has sought as far as possible to maximise continuity with the existing electoral area pattern.

5 Review of Local Electoral Areas and Recommendations

This chapter deals with the individual local authorities under the remit of the Committee. The current position in relation to population and representation is described for each local authority; and a brief analysis of issues relevant to the Committee's terms of reference is set out, followed by the recommendations of the Committee. Maps of recommended electoral areas are included, while formal specifications of those areas are contained in Appendix I.

For comparison purposes, maps of the electoral areas established in 1998 are included in Appendix VI.

Cork City

Population and membership

The population of Cork City decreased from 127,187 in 1996 to 119,418 in 2006 (a reduction of 7,769 or 6.11%). Significant reductions occurred in the electoral areas of Cork South-West (-15.59%), Cork North-West (-8.93%) and Cork North-Central (-6.61%). More modest decreases were experienced in the electoral areas of Cork South-Central (-4.33%) and Cork North-East (-2.30%), while the population of Cork South-East electoral area increased marginally. The present population and electoral area arrangements for Cork City are as follows:

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the city average
Cork City	119,418	31	3,852	
Cork North-Central	18,286	5	3,657	-5.06
Cork North-East	18,088	5	3,618	-6.09
Cork North-West	19,720	5	3,944	2.39
Cork South-Central	19,571	5	3,914	1.61
Cork South-East	25,535	6	4,256	10.48
Cork South-West	18,218	5	3,644	-5.41

One electoral area, Cork South-East, has a variation outside of the + or –10% range.

Analysis

At present, Cork South-East electoral area has a population closer to that of a seven-member electoral area.

There are two Dáil constituencies in Cork City, i.e. Cork North-Central and Cork South-Central, whose north/south boundary recommended in the Report of the Constituency Commission is along the River Lee. In their current formation, the local electoral areas of Cork North-East and Cork North-West cross the River Lee and would therefore be split between both prospective Dáil constituencies.

Recommendations

The Committee's recommendation is to maintain the present six electoral area structure, three to the north and three to the south. Given the extent of non-alignment that exists between the boundaries of those areas and Dáil constituencies, a number of changes in electoral area boundaries and memberships are desirable.

The Committee considers it appropriate to use the River Lee as a natural north/south boundary for this purpose. The Committee recommends that the electoral divisions included in Cork South-Central Dáil constituency (Bishopstown A, Gillabbey B, Gillabbey C and Mardyke) should be transferred from Cork North-West electoral area to Cork South-West electoral area. Furthermore, the Committee recommends that the electoral division of Fair Hill B be transferred from Cork North-Central electoral area to Cork North-West electoral area. The reduced population of 15,401 in Cork North-West electoral area would support a membership of four, which would give it a variation from the population per member for the city of -0.05%.

The Committee recommends that the electoral division of The Glen A be transferred to Cork North-Central electoral area. With an increased population of 19,953 and a membership of five, Cork North-Central electoral area would have a variation from the average population per member in the city of 3.60%.

To achieve full alignment between the boundaries of electoral areas and Dáil constituencies, the Committee recommends that Center A electoral division be transferred from Cork North-East electoral area to Cork South-Central electoral area. Together with the transfer of The Glen A to Cork North-Central electoral area, the population of Cork North-East electoral area would decrease to 14,809. A reduced membership of four would be appropriate to this population, giving a variation from the city average population per member of -3.89%.

Given its current representational imbalance, the Committee considers that Cork South-East electoral area should have an increase in membership from six to seven. With a population of 25,535, this would give it a variation of -5.30% from the population per member for the city.

The Committee recommends that Cork South-Central electoral area retains its current level of membership. With an increased population of 20,362 (as a result of the inclusion of Centre A electoral division) and a membership of five, Cork South-

Central electoral area would have a variation from the city average population per member of 5.72%.

The Committee recommends that the northern boundary of Cork South-West electoral area be moved northwards to include the electoral divisions of Bishopstown A, Gillabbey B, Gillabbey C and Mardyke, thereby achieving alignment with the Dáil constituency boundaries. This would increase the population of the electoral area to 23,358, and an increased membership of six would give it a variation of 1.06% from the city average population per member.

Finally, the Committee recommends that the electoral areas be renamed Cork City North-Central (from Cork North-Central at present), Cork City North-East (from Cork North-East), Cork City North-West (from Cork North-West), Cork City South-Central (from Cork South-Central), Cork City South-East (from Cork South-East) and Cork City South-West (from Cork South-West). This nomenclature would be consistent with our recommended approach for some other cities.

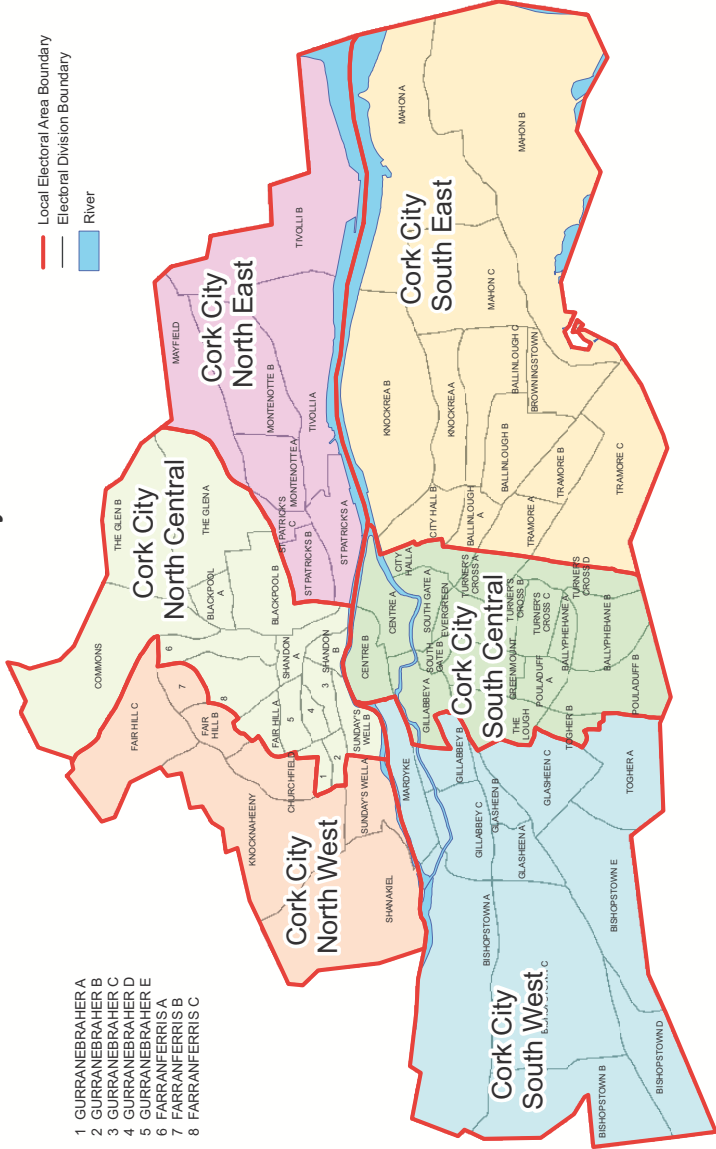
A summary of the recommended electoral areas is set out below and a formal specification of those areas is contained in Appendix I.

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the city average
Cork City	119,418	31	3,852	
Cork City North-Central	19,953	5	3,991	3.60
Cork City North-East	14,809	4	3,702	-3.89
Cork City North-West	15,401	4	3,850	-0.05
Cork City South-Central	20,362	5	4,072	5.72
Cork City South-East	25,535	7	3,648	-5.30
Cork City South-West	23,358	6	3,893	1.06

Cork City

- Local Electoral Area Boundary
- Electoral Division Boundary
- River

- GURRANE BRAHER A
- GURRANE BRAHER B
- GURRANE BRAHER C
- GURRANE BRAHER D
- GURRANE BRAHER E
- FARRANE FERRIS A
- FARRANE FERRIS B
- FARRANE FERRIS C



Dublin City

Population and membership

The population of Dublin City increased from 481,854 in 1996 to 506,211 in 2006 (an increase of 24,357 or 5.06%). The inner-city area has experienced exceptional growth in population (i.e. from 99,262 to 130,466 – an increase of 31,204 or 31.44%) over the ten-year period. This is comprised of an increase of 29.55% in the south inner-city area and of 33.73% in the north inner-city. In contrast, the population in some electoral areas outside of the central area, such as Ballyfermot and Rathmines, remained reasonably stable, while that in other areas, such as Artane and Donaghmede, declined.

The present population and electoral area arrangements for Dublin City are as follows:

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the city average
Dublin City	506,211	52	9,735	
Artane	35,633	4	8,908	-8.50
Ballyfermot	27,678	3	9,226	-5.23
Ballymun-Whitehall	27,301	3	9,100	-6.50
Cabra-Glasnevin	44,618	5	8,924	-8.33
Clontarf	47,025	5	9,405	-3.40
Crumlin-Kimmage	48,966	5	9,793	0.60
Donaghmede	44,906	5	8,981	-7.70
Finglas	33,914	4	8,479	-12.9
North Inner City	60,056	5	12,011	23.4
Pembroke	30,137	3	10,046	3.19
Rathmines	35,567	4	8,892	-8.66
South-East Inner City	34,601	3	11,534	18.48
South-West Inner City	35,809	3	11,936	22.61

Four local electoral areas, Finglas, North Inner City, South-East Inner City and South-West Inner City, have variations outside the + or -10% range.

Analysis

Apart from the case of Phoenix Park electoral division (part of which is included in South-West Inner City electoral area), the present arrangement of electoral areas observes a north/south division of the city on either side of the River Liffey. This division was also used as a basis for -

- the Dáil constituency boundaries recommended in the Report of the Constituency Commission, and
- the area-based administrative arrangements currently operated by Dublin City Council.

The Committee considers that any departure from this well established north/south division would be unnecessarily discontinuous with present arrangements and would make impossible a reasonable level of alignment with Dáil constituency boundaries and service delivery areas. Assuming, therefore, the continuation of the present north/south division, it is necessary to look at the representation ratios of these two zones in the light of population changes.

The present population and membership data for the north-city and south-city electoral areas respectively are as follows:

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the city average
Dublin City	506,211	52	9,735	
Dublin City North	293,453	31	9,466	-2.76%
Dublin City South	212,758	21	10,131	4.07%

Based on the population per member for the entire city, Dublin City North has a population equivalent to 30.14 members while Dublin City South has a population equivalent to 21.86 members. On this basis, the Committee considers that an adjustment in the balance of members between the north-city and the south-city is appropriate, i.e. that 30 members should be assigned to the north-city and 22 to the south-city.

A number of issues beyond population and representation levels also arise.

There are at present five three-member electoral areas; one (Ballymun-Whitehall) in the north-city and four (Ballyfermot, Pembroke, South-East Inner City and South-West Inner City) in the south-city.

In the north-city, there are four Dáil constituencies (Dublin Central, Dublin North-Central, Dublin North-West and Dublin North-East) while in the south-city, there are two constituencies (Dublin South-Central and Dublin South-East). Three of these constituencies (i.e. Dublin North-West, Dublin North-East and Dublin South-Central) also include areas outside of the administrative area of the City Council. As the Dáil constituency boundaries and the local electoral area boundaries have developed separately over time, it is not possible to achieve full alignment between both boundaries without major departure from the existing local electoral area structure. Furthermore, it is likely that a full alignment between both sets of boundaries would result in compromises in terms of preservation of natural communities.

In the south-city, the boundary formed by the N81 roadway from the River Liffey at Winetavern Street through Harold's Cross to Terenure and its continuation along Rathfarnham Road to the River Dodder forms an appropriate east/west division. The roadway also forms the boundary between Dublin South-Central and Dublin South-East Dáil constituencies, and the boundary between Dublin City Council's administrative areas 1 and 2. The Committee also considers it appropriate to continue as far as possible with the long-established north/south boundary formed by the Grand Canal.

Given the above-mentioned issues, the Committee had to consider substantial changes to the electoral areas in the interests of effective and convenient local government.

Recommendations

In the south-city, the three existing electoral areas to the east of the N81 roadway (Pembroke, Rathmines and South-East Inner City) have a combined total of ten members, which gives an average representation per member in line with that of the city. The population of South-East Inner City electoral area (currently assigned three-members) has experienced exceptional growth and is now closer to that of a four-member area than a three-member area. Accordingly, the Committee considers it appropriate to recommend an increase in membership of one in South-East Inner City electoral area. The Committee also recommends a transfer of the

electoral divisions of Pembroke West A (part of) and Pembroke East B to South-East Inner City electoral area. As a result, South-East Inner City electoral area would have a total population of 40,028 with four members and a variation from the average population per member in the city of 2.80%.

The Committee recommends that the electoral areas of Pembroke (without the electoral divisions transferred to South-East Inner City electoral area) and Rathmines be combined into a single electoral area with a population of 60,277 and six members, thereby giving it a variation from the city average population per member of 3.20%.

To the west of the N81, while the three existing electoral areas (Ballyfermot, Crumlin-Kimmage, and South-West Inner City) currently have a combined membership of eleven, their cumulative population would make a membership of twelve more appropriate.

Given its exceptional increase in population, the Committee considers that an increase in membership of one is justified in South-West Inner City electoral area; its population of 35,809 and a membership of four would give it a variation from the city average population per member of -8.04%. This area will continue to include the area between the southern boundary wall of Phoenix Park and the River Liffey.

The Committee does not consider it appropriate that Ballyfermot electoral area should continue in its current form as a three member electoral area. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the electoral area be extended to include three electoral divisions currently in Crumlin-Kimmage electoral area, i.e. Crumlin A, Crumlin B and Crumlin E, and that the enlarged electoral area be renamed Ballyfermot-Drimnagh electoral area. Ballyfermot-Drimnagh electoral area would have a population of 37,398, which with four members would create a variation of -3.96% from the city average population per member.

The Committee recommends that Crumlin-Kimmage electoral area, without the three electoral divisions to be included in Ballyfermot-Drimnagh electoral area, be assigned four members, i.e. a reduction of one member. With a population of 39,246, Crumlin-Kimmage would have a variation of 0.79% from the city average population per member.

In the north-city, the Committee does not consider it appropriate that the three-member Ballymun-Whitehall electoral area should continue in its current form. It recommends that the electoral divisions in that area be assigned to two existing neighbouring electoral areas, i.e. Finglas and Whitehall. The Committee considers it appropriate that the electoral divisions of Ballymun A, Ballymun B, Ballymun C, Ballymun D and Ballymun E be transferred to the Finglas electoral area, which would be renamed Ballymun-Finglas electoral area. This area has its southern boundary along the Dáil constituency boundary line formed by Griffith Avenue, Old Finglas Road and River Tolka. Its eastern boundary is formed along a line starting at the junction of Griffith Avenue and Ballymun Road, moving northwards as far as Shanliss Road, and continuing northwards along Shanliss Avenue to Santry Avenue. Ballymun-Finglas electoral area would have a population of 50,957, five members and a variation from the city average population per member of 4.69%.

The electoral divisions of Whitehall A, Whitehall B and Whitehall C should be transferred to the Artane electoral area, which would be renamed Artane-Whitehall electoral area. The Committee further recommends that this enlarged electoral area also include the part of Whitehall D electoral division currently in the Clontarf electoral area. With a population of 47,095 and an increase in membership from four to five, Artane-Whitehall electoral area would have a variation from the city average of -3.25%.

The Committee considers that Clontarf electoral area should include all of the electoral division of Clontarf East A. With all of Whitehall D electoral division now in Artane-Whitehall electoral area, the population of Clontarf electoral area would stand at 48,934, which with its membership of five would give it a variation from the city average population per member of 0.53%.

With the transfer of part of the electoral division of Clontarf East A to Clontarf electoral area, Donaghmede electoral area would have a population of 41,793, for which a membership of four is appropriate; this would give it a variation from the city average of 7.33%.

The Committee recommends that the north/south boundary between Clontarf and North Inner City electoral areas remains the River Tolka and that the east/west boundary between North Inner City and Cabra-Glasnevin remains unchanged. Given the increase in population that occurred in North Inner City electoral area, the

Committee considers it appropriate that there should be an increase in membership of the area from five to six. With a population of 60,056, this would give the electoral area a population per member variation from the city average of 2.82%.

Finally, the Committee recommends that no changes be made in either boundaries or membership to the electoral area of Cabra-Glasnevin. With a population of 44,618, the area has a variation of -8.33% from the local authority average. This electoral area will continue to include the Phoenix Park north of the River Liffey but without the area between the southern boundary wall of the Park and the river.

A summary of the recommended electoral areas is set out below and a formal specification of those areas is contained in Appendix I. The boundaries of the electoral areas are also illustrated in Map A at the back of the report.

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the city average
Dublin City	506,211	52	9,735	
Artane-Whitehall	47,095	5	9,419	-3.25
Ballyfermot-Drimnagh	37,398	4	9,350	-3.96
Ballymun-Finglas	50,957	5	10,191	4.69
Cabra-Glasnevin	44,618	5	8,924	-8.33
Clontarf	48,934	5	9,787	0.53
Crumlin-Kimmage	39,246	4	9,812	0.79
Donaghmede	41,793	4	10,448	7.33
North Inner City	60,056	6	10,009	2.82
Pembroke-Rathmines	60,277	6	10,046	3.20
South-East Inner City	40,028	4	10,007	2.80
South-West Inner City	35,809	4	8,952	-8.04

Dublin City

— Local Electoral Area Boundary
— Electoral Division Boundary

LEAs and EDs shown on the map:

- Ballymun-Finglas (Yellow):** BALLYMUN NORTH, BALLYMUN SOUTH, BALLYMUN WEST, BALLYMUN EAST, BALLYMUN CENTRAL, BALLYMUN SOUTH, BALLYMUN WEST, BALLYMUN EAST, BALLYMUN CENTRAL.
- Donaghmede (Orange):** DONAGHMEDE NORTH, DONAGHMEDE SOUTH, DONAGHMEDE WEST, DONAGHMEDE EAST, DONAGHMEDE CENTRAL.
- Clontarf (Green):** CLONTARF NORTH, CLONTARF SOUTH, CLONTARF WEST, CLONTARF EAST, CLONTARF CENTRAL.
- North Inner City (Light Green):** NORTH INNER CITY NORTH, NORTH INNER CITY SOUTH, NORTH INNER CITY WEST, NORTH INNER CITY EAST, NORTH INNER CITY CENTRAL.
- South-East Inner City (Light Green):** SOUTH-EAST INNER CITY NORTH, SOUTH-EAST INNER CITY SOUTH, SOUTH-EAST INNER CITY WEST, SOUTH-EAST INNER CITY EAST, SOUTH-EAST INNER CITY CENTRAL.
- South-West Inner City (Light Green):** SOUTH-WEST INNER CITY NORTH, SOUTH-WEST INNER CITY SOUTH, SOUTH-WEST INNER CITY WEST, SOUTH-WEST INNER CITY EAST, SOUTH-WEST INNER CITY CENTRAL.
- Cabra-Glasnevin (Light Blue):** CABRA, GLASNEVIN, CABRA WEST, CABRA EAST, GLASNEVIN WEST, GLASNEVIN EAST.
- South-East Inner City (Light Green):** SOUTH-EAST INNER CITY NORTH, SOUTH-EAST INNER CITY SOUTH, SOUTH-EAST INNER CITY WEST, SOUTH-EAST INNER CITY EAST, SOUTH-EAST INNER CITY CENTRAL.
- Pembroke-Rathmines (Light Green):** PEMBROKE NORTH, PEMBROKE SOUTH, PEMBROKE WEST, PEMBROKE EAST, PEMBROKE CENTRAL.
- Crumlin-Kimmage (Light Blue):** CRULIN, KIMMAGE, CRULIN WEST, CRULIN EAST, KIMMAGE WEST, KIMMAGE EAST.
- Ballyfermot-Drimmagh (Pink):** BALLYFERMOT, DRIMMAGH, BALLYFERMOT WEST, BALLYFERMOT EAST, DRIMMAGH WEST, DRIMMAGH EAST.

- Local Electoral Area Boundary
— Electoral Division Boundary

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown

Population and membership

The population of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown increased from 189,999 in 1996 to 194,038 in 2006 (a gain of 4,039 or 2.13%). This overall trend has not been even across the whole county; the increase in population in Glencullen electoral area (+33.30%) has been exceptional, while that in Blackrock electoral area (+5.31%) was also ahead of the local authority average. The populations of Ballybrack and Stillorgan electoral areas remained stable, while there were reductions of population in Dundrum (-5.91%) and Dún Laoghaire (-4.58%).

The present population and electoral area arrangements for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown are as follows:

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the county average
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	194,038	28	6,930	
Ballybrack	41,384	6	6,897	-0.47
Blackrock	29,455	4	7,364	6.26
Dundrum	37,373	6	6,229	-10.12
Dún Laoghaire	40,182	6	6,697	-3.36
Glencullen	25,804	3	8,601	24.12
Stillorgan	19,840	3	6,613	-4.57

Two electoral areas (Dundrum and Glencullen) have variations outside of the + or – 10% range.

Analysis

At present, Dundrum electoral area has a population closer to that of a five-member electoral area, while Glencullen has a population more appropriate to a four-member area.

There are two three-member electoral areas (i.e. Glencullen and Stillorgan), both of which are in the western part of the county.

The county is seen as being comprised of an eastern part (covering the electoral areas of Ballybrack, Blackrock and Dún Laoghaire) and a western part (covering the electoral areas of Dundrum, Glencullen and Stillorgan). This east/west axis is reflected in the Council's area committee structure. There are two major towns in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown at present, i.e. Dún Laoghaire in the east and Dundrum in the west. The Sandford area has emerged as a major development area in recent years. The County Development Plan has also identified two other primary nodes for significant urban development, i.e. Bray environs on the southern boundary of the area and the Cherrywood-Rathmichael area.

There are two Dáil constituencies in the county, Dún Laoghaire in the east and Dublin South in the west. The Report of the Constituency Commission established the N11 dual carriageway as the boundary between the two constituencies from the north of the county to Loughlinstown; this has the effect of transferring from Dún Laoghaire to Dublin South constituency two electoral divisions (Foxrock-Carrickmines and Foxrock-Torquay) and parts of two other electoral divisions (Cabinteely-Loughlinstown and Stillorgan-Leopardstown).

Aside from the N11 roadway, there are few natural boundaries available to delimit electoral areas in the county.

Recommendations

The Committee's recommendation is to maintain the present six electoral area structure, three to the east and three to the west and to minimise changes to the boundaries and membership of the electoral areas.

The Committee recommends that no changes should be made to the boundaries or the memberships of the electoral areas of Blackrock or Dún Laoghaire.

In view of the non-alignment between the boundary of the Ballybrack electoral area and the Dáil constituency boundaries, the Committee considers it appropriate that two electoral divisions that are now to be included in Dublin South constituency (Cabinteely-Loughlinstown and Foxrock-Carrickmines) should be transferred from Ballybrack electoral area. The reduced population of 32,856 in Ballybrack would be appropriate to a reduced membership of five, which would give it a variation from the population per member for the county of -5.18%.

The Committee recommends that one of the electoral divisions to be transferred from Ballybrack electoral area (i.e. Cabinteely-Loughlinstown) should be transferred to Glencullen electoral area. This would increase the population of the latter electoral area to 28,350, which with an increased membership of four would give it a variation from the county average population per member of 2.27%. The Committee also considers that a change in the name of the electoral area to Glencullen-Sandyford, to reflect how the area is developing, would be appropriate.

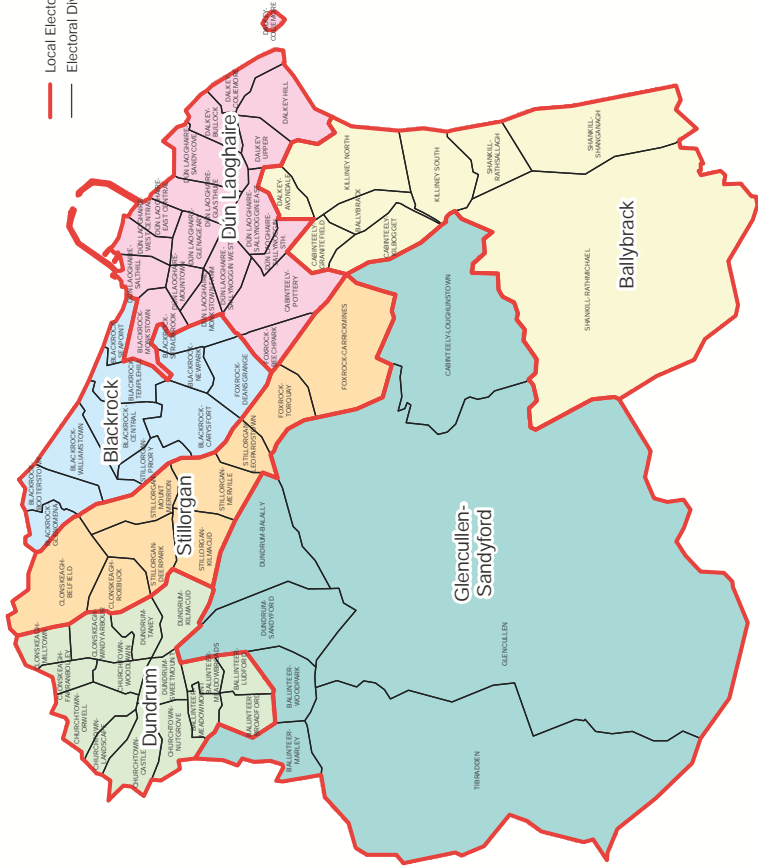
Given the decrease in population that has occurred in Dundrum electoral area, the Committee considers it appropriate that there should be a reduction in membership of the area from six to five. With a population of 37,373, this would give it a variation of 7.86% from the population per member for the county.

Finally, the Committee recommends that the second electoral division to be transferred from Ballybrack electoral area (i.e. Foxrock-Carrickmines) should be transferred to the Stillorgan electoral area. This would increase the population of the latter electoral area to 25,822. An increased membership of four for the area would give it a variation of -6.85% from the county's average population per member.

A summary of the recommended electoral areas is set out below and a formal specification of those areas is contained in Appendix I. The boundaries of the electoral areas are also illustrated in Map B at the back of the report.

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the county average
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown	194,038	28	6,930	
Ballybrack	32,856	5	6,571	-5.18
Blackrock	29,455	4	7,364	6.26
Dundrum	37,373	5	7,475	7.86
Dún Laoghaire	40,182	6	6,697	-3.36
Glencullen-Sandyford	28,350	4	7,088	2.27
Stillorgan	25,822	4	6,456	-6.85

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown



Fingal

Population and membership

The population of Fingal increased substantially from 167,683 in 1996 to 239,992 in 2006 (a gain of 72,309 or 43.13%). However, this increase has not been evenly spread throughout the county. Exceptional population growth occurred in the electoral areas of Mulhuddart (+84.26%) and Swords (+64.89%). The growth in the electoral areas of Balbriggan (+47.93%) and Castleknock (+40.76%) is in line with the average for the county. More modest growth occurred in Malahide electoral area (+11.33%) while the population of Howth electoral area fell from 22,257 to 20,052 (-9.91%).

The present population and electoral area arrangements for Fingal are as follows:

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the county average
Fingal	239,992	24	10,000	
Balbriggan	40,786	4	10,197	1.97
Castleknock	37,668	4	9,417	-5.83
Howth	20,052	3	6,684	-33.16
Malahide	29,752	4	7,438	-25.62
Mulhuddart	53,306	4	13,327	33.27
Swords	58,428	5	11,686	16.86

Four of the electoral areas, Howth, Malahide, Mulhuddart and Swords have variations outside of the + or -10% range.

Analysis

The North Road (N2) acts as an east/west divide in the county and the Blanchardstown area (incorporating the existing Castleknock and Mulhuddart electoral areas) provides the urban focus for the area south-west of that road. The main focal point to the north-east of the road is Swords. To the north of the county, Balbriggan is another centre with significant potential for development. There are four Dáil constituencies in Fingal, i.e. Dublin North-East, Dublin North-West, Dublin West and Dublin North. The Report of the Constituency Commission recommended the

transfer of certain areas in the vicinity of Swords and Dublin Airport to Dublin West constituency, and the transfer of certain areas in the vicinity of Balgriffin and Portmarnock to Dublin North-East constituency. With these changes, Swords electoral area now contains all four constituencies. Accordingly, the Committee considers that full alignment between the boundaries of electoral areas and Dáil constituencies would not be in the interests of effective and convenient local government.

Recommendations

The Committee considered it appropriate to retain the North Road as an east/west divide in the county.

The Committee considers that the population in the Mulhuddart electoral area warrants an increase of one member, thereby bringing its membership to five. The Committee also considered it appropriate that the electoral divisions of Lucan North and Blanchardstown-Blakestown (part of) be transferred to Mulhuddart electoral area. Mulhuddart electoral area thus extended would have a total population of 47,782, which with five members would have a variation from the average population per member in the county of -4.43%.

The Committee recommends that part of the electoral division of Blanchardstown-Coolmine be transferred to Castleknock electoral area. With an increased population of 43,192 and a membership of four, Castleknock electoral area would have a variation from the county average population per member of 7.98%.

To the east of the North Road, the four existing electoral areas (Swords, Howth, Malahide and Balbriggan) have a combined total of sixteen members. However, a combined membership of fifteen between the four areas is now more appropriate. In view of the importance of Swords as the administrative capital of the county, the Committee recommends that Swords electoral area retains its five members. However, the Committee also considers it appropriate to recommend a transfer of part of the electoral division of Lusk to Balbriggan electoral area. As a result, Swords electoral area would have a decreased population of 51,803, which with five members would create a variation from the average population per member in the county of +3.61%.

The Committee recommends that Balbriggan electoral area, with the part of the electoral division of Lusk transferred from Swords electoral area, be assigned five members, i.e. an increase of one member. With a population of 47,411, Balbriggan would have a variation from the county average population per member of -5.17%.

In view of the decline in population that they have experienced, the Committee recommends that the electoral areas of Howth and Malahide be combined and be assigned a membership of five. With a population of 49,804, Howth-Malahide electoral area would have a variation from the average population per member in the county of -0.39%.

A summary of the recommended electoral areas is set out below and a formal specification of those areas is contained in Appendix I. The boundaries of the electoral areas are also illustrated in Map B at the back of the report.

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the county average
Fingal	239,992	24	10,000	
Balbriggan	47,411	5	9,482	-5.17
Castleknock	43,192	4	10,798	7.98
Howth-Malahide	49,804	5	9,961	-0.39
Mulhuddart	47,782	5	9,556	-4.43
Swords	51,803	5	10,361	3.61

Fingal

 Local Electoral Area Boundary
 Electoral Division Boundary



Galway City

Population and membership

The population of Galway City increased from 57,241 in 1996 to 72,414 in 2006 (+26.51%). Increases in population ahead of the city average occurred in two of the three local electoral areas; the population of Galway No. 1 increased from 26,197 to 35,343 (+34.92%) during the ten-year period, while the population of Galway No. 3 increased from 15,579 to 22,023 (+41.37%) during the same period. In contrast to these increases, the population in Galway No. 2 electoral area decreased from 15,465 in 1996 to 15,048 in 2006 (-2.70%).

The present population and electoral area arrangements for Galway City are as follows:

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the city average
Galway City	72,414	15	4,828	
Galway No. 1	35,343	7	5,049	4.59
Galway No. 2	15,048	4	3,762	-22.07
Galway No. 3	22,023	4	5,506	14.05

Two electoral areas (Galway No. 2 and Galway No. 3) have variations outside of the + or -10% range.

Analysis

As present, Galway No. 2 electoral area has a population that would justify just three members, based on the average population per member in the city. On the other hand, a membership of five would be more appropriate to the current population in Galway No. 3 electoral area.

The major growth areas in the city are Knocknacarra in Galway No. 3 electoral area and Ballinfoyle/Castlegar and Doughiska/Roscam in Galway No. 1 electoral area.

As the entire area of Galway City lies within Galway West Dáil constituency, the issue of alignment between the boundaries of electoral areas and the Dáil constituency is assured.

Recommendations

The Committee considers that the present three electoral area structure should be maintained, but recommends changes in the membership and boundaries of those areas.

The Committee recommends that Galway No. 3 electoral area be extended to include Taylors Hill electoral division. The resulting enlarged population of 24,736 would support an increased membership of five, which would give the area a variation from the population per member for the city of 2.48%.

The Committee considers it appropriate that Galway No. 2 electoral area should be enlarged to enable it to support a membership of four. Accordingly, it recommends that the electoral divisions of Eyre Square and St Nicholas be included in that electoral area. That would give Galway No. 2 electoral area an increased population of 19,117, which with four members would have a variation from the average population per member of -1%.

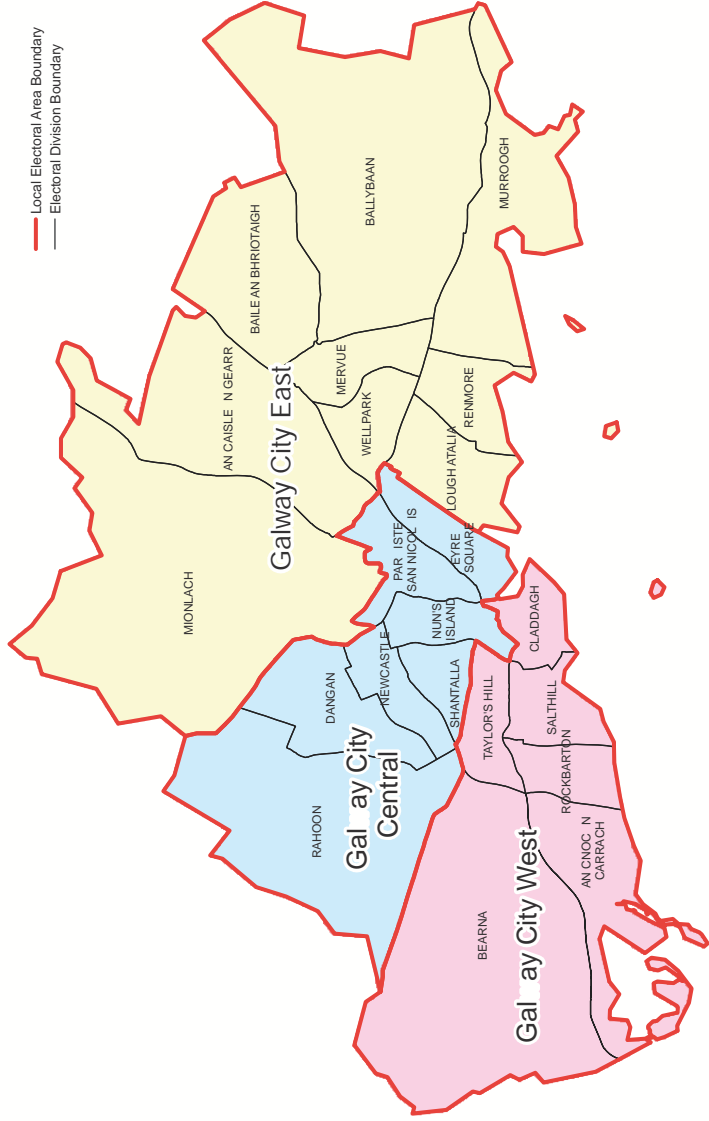
With the transfer of the electoral divisions of Eyre Square and St Nicholas to Galway No. 2 electoral area, Galway No. 1 electoral area would have a population of 28,561. The Committee considers that this area should have a membership of six, giving a variation from the population per member for the city of -1.40%.

Finally, the Committee recommends that the electoral areas be renamed Galway City East (from Galway No. 1 at present), Galway City Central (from Galway No. 2) and Galway City West (from Galway No. 3).

A summary of the recommended electoral areas is set out below and a formal specification of those areas is contained in Appendix I.

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the city average
Galway City	72,414	15	4,828	
Galway City Central	19,117	4	4,779	-1.01
Galway City East	28,561	6	4,760	-1.40
Galway City West	24,736	5	4,947	2.48

Galway City



Limerick City

Population and membership

The population of Limerick City recorded marginal growth between 1996 and 2006, increasing from 52,039 by just 500 (0.96%) to 52,539. There were reductions in population in two of the four electoral areas; Limerick No. 1 (-12.74%) and Limerick No. 3 (-12.58%). In contrast, there were increases in population in Limerick No. 2 (+13.45%) and in Limerick No. 4 (+21.09%).

In March 2008, an order of the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government became effective transferring Limerick North Rural electoral division (population 7,251) from Limerick County to Limerick City. The added area is contiguous to Limerick No. 1 electoral area. The extension of the city boundary increased the local authority population per member from 3,091 to 3,517 and gives rise to the following revised population and electoral area arrangements for the Limerick City, assuming the incorporation of the newly added area to the Limerick No. 1 electoral area:

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the city average
Limerick City	59,790	17	3,517	
Limerick No. 1	21,020	5	4,204	19.53
Limerick No. 2	13,217	4	3,304	-6.05
Limerick No. 3	11,026	4	2,757	-21.62
Limerick No. 4	14,527	4	3,632	3.26

Therefore, two of the electoral areas have variations outside of the + or -10% range, with Limerick No. 1 electoral area having a population closer to that of a six-member area, and Limerick No. 3 having a population closer to that of a three-member area.

Analysis

The River Shannon forms a natural boundary between Limerick No. 1 electoral area and the rest of the city.

As the entire area of Limerick City lies within the Dáil constituency of Limerick City recommended in the Report of the Constituency Commission, the issue of alignment

between the local electoral areas and Dáil boundaries is assured. The Committee took note of the areas covered by the Limerick Northside and Limerick Southside Regeneration Agencies. The work of both agencies involves a number of regeneration committees, the membership of which includes elected members from the respective electoral areas. Areas being regenerated are contained in each of the four electoral areas.

Recommendations

The Committee's recommendation is to merge two of the existing electoral areas, thereby reducing the number of electoral areas from four to three.

In view of the effective increase in population in Limerick No. 1 electoral area (as a result of the extension of the boundary of the city), the Committee considers it appropriate that the number of members for that area be increased by one. With a population of 21,020 and a membership of six, the area would have a variation from the population per member for the city of -0.39%.

The Committee also considers that no change should be made to the boundary or membership of Limerick No. 2 electoral area.

The Committee recommends that the electoral areas of Limerick No. 3 and Limerick No. 4 be merged and be assigned seven members. With a combined population of 25,553, this would give that new electoral area a variation from the population per member for the city of +3.79%. As the new electoral area encompasses all of the areas under the remit of Limerick Southside Regeneration Agency, it will maintain a coherent basis for interaction between members of the electoral area, the Agency and the City Council.

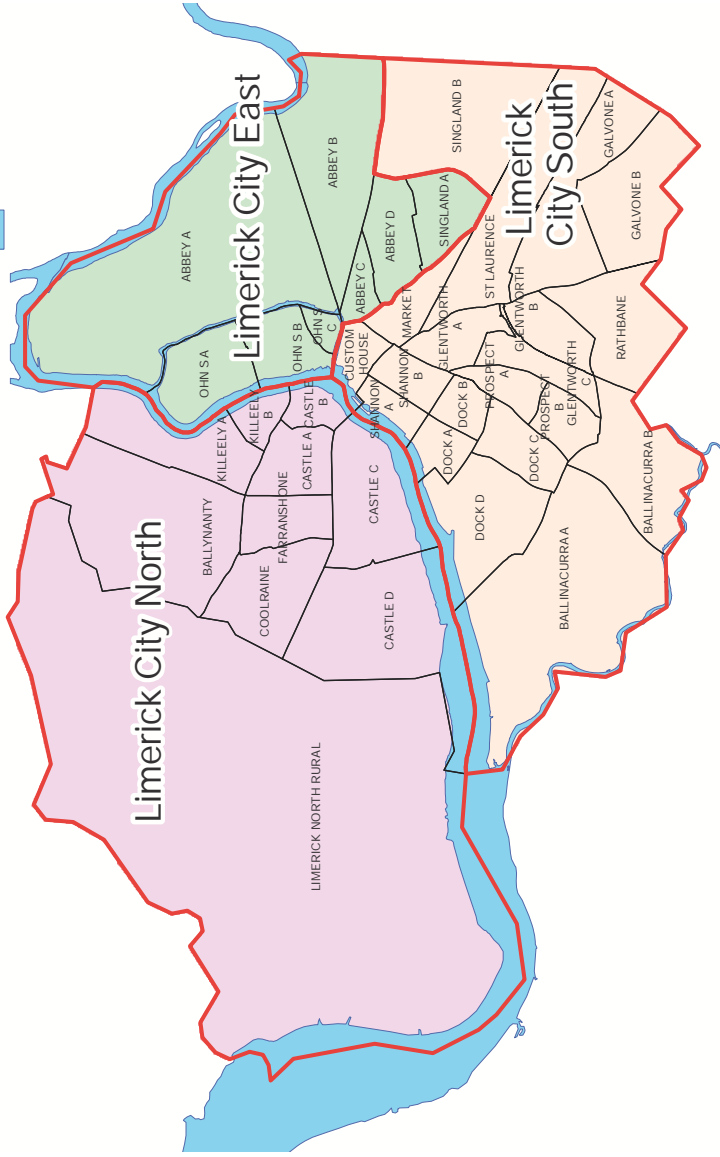
The Committee also recommends that the local electoral areas should be renamed as Limerick City North (from Limerick No. 1 at present), Limerick City East (from Limerick No. 2) and Limerick City South (the electoral area formed by the merger of Limerick No. 3 and Limerick No. 4).

A summary of the recommended electoral areas is set out below and a formal specification of those areas is contained in Appendix I.

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the city average
Limerick City	59,790	17	3,517	
Limerick City East	13,217	4	3,304	-6.05
Limerick City North	21,020	6	3,503	-0.39
Limerick City South	25,553	7	3,650	3.79

Limerick City

- Local Electoral Area Boundary
- Electoral Division Boundary
- River



South Dublin

Population and membership

The population of South Dublin increased from 218,728 in 1996 to 246,935 in 2006 (a gain of 28,207 or 12.9%). The rate of population growth was exceptionally high in the electoral areas of Lucan (+50.09%) and Tallaght South (+40.49%). Clondalkin electoral area experienced a modest increase (+5.85%). In contrast, there were reductions in population in the electoral areas of Tallaght Central (-11.08%) and Terenure-Rathfarnham (-3.77%).

The present population and electoral area arrangements for South Dublin are as follows:

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the county average
South Dublin	246,935	26	9,498	
Clondalkin	43,991	5	8,789	-7.36
Lucan	49,845	4	12,461	31.21
Tallaght Central	36,536	5	7,307	-23.06
Tallaght South	55,767	5	11,153	17.44
Terenure-Rathfarnham	60,173	7	8,685	-8.55

Three electoral areas (Lucan, Tallaght Central and Tallaght South) have variations outside of the + or -10% range.

Analysis

At present, the electoral areas of Lucan and Tallaght South have populations that could support one additional member each, while the population of Tallaght Central would indicate a membership of four, i.e. a reduction of one member.

The County Development Plan identifies the county town at Tallaght, with town centres at Clondalkin and Liffey Valley. The major retail centres in the county are in Tallaght and Liffey Valley, while Adamstown and Clonburris, which are in Lucan and Clondalkin electoral areas, have the biggest potential for population growth in the county.

There are four Dáil constituencies in the county, i.e. Dublin Mid-West, Dublin South-West, Dublin South and Dublin South-Central. Substantial non-alignment between the boundaries of these constituencies and the electoral areas exists at present. Tallaght South electoral area is divided between three constituencies, i.e. Dublin Mid-West, Dublin South-West and Dublin South, while Terenure-Rathfarnham electoral area includes parts of Dublin South-West, Dublin South and Dublin South-Central constituencies.

Recommendations

The Committee's recommendation is to maintain the present five electoral area structure. However, given the variations that exist between the populations per member in the electoral areas and the extent of non-alignment between the boundaries of those areas and Dáil constituencies, substantial changes in electoral area boundaries and memberships are required.

The Committee recommends that Lucan electoral area be assigned one additional member. It also recommends that part of the electoral division of Palmerston West close to Liffey Valley and comprising a population of 2,608 be transferred to the neighbouring electoral area of Clondalkin. With a reduced population of 47,237 and five members, Lucan electoral area would have a variation from the population per member for the county of -0.53%.

To improve the alignment between Clondalkin electoral area and Dáil constituency boundaries, the Committee considers that the electoral divisions of Rathcoole and Saggart should be transferred from Tallaght South to Clondalkin electoral area. Together with the area close to Liffey Valley that is being transferred from Lucan electoral area, the population of Clondalkin electoral area would increase to 53,173. A membership of six would be appropriate to this population, giving a variation from the county average population per member of -6.69%.

With a view to further improving the alignment with between the boundaries of electoral areas and Dáil constituencies, the Committee recommends that the part of Terenure-Rathfarnham electoral area that lies within Dublin South Dáil constituency should constitute a separate electoral area. This new electoral area, to be known as Rathfarnham, would have a population of 38,832 and a membership of four, thereby giving it a variation from the county average population per member of 2.22%.

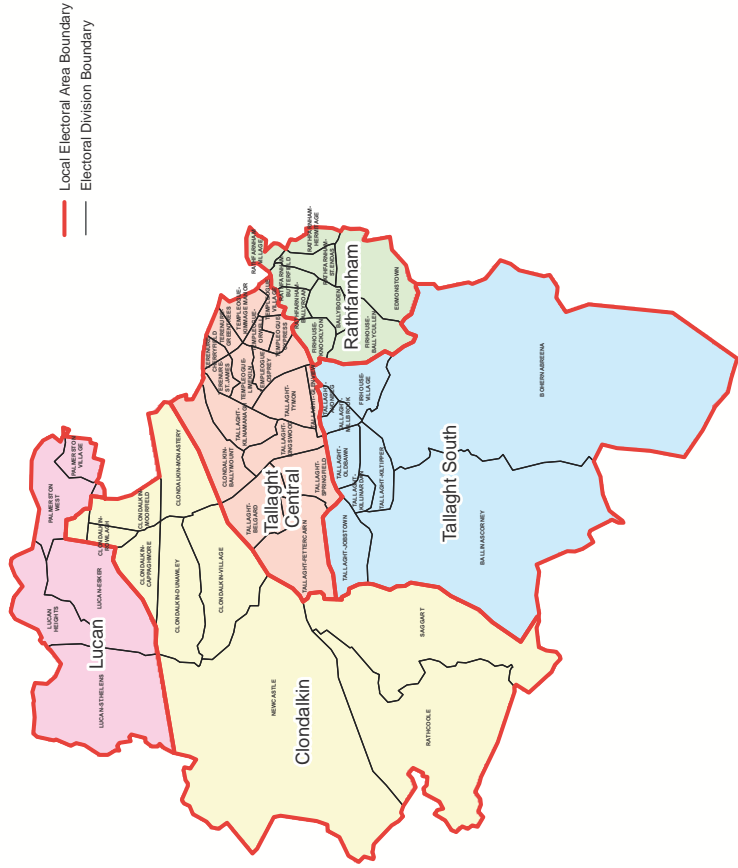
The Committee considers that the remainder of the present Terenure-Rathfarnham electoral area should be amalgamated with the electoral divisions in the present Tallaght Central electoral area that lie to the north of the N81 roadway through Tallaght and with Tallaght-Fettercairn electoral division (at present part of Tallaght South electoral area). This area, to be known as Tallaght Central electoral area, would have a population of 59,306 and a membership of six, thereby creating a variation from the county average population per member of 4.07%.

In view of the above recommendations, the Tallaght South electoral area would henceforth not include the electoral divisions of Rathcoole and Saggart (which are being transferred to Clondalkin electoral area), Tallaght-Fettercairn electoral division (which is to be part of Tallaght Central electoral area) and parts of three electoral divisions (Edmondstown, Firhouse-Ballycullen and Firhouse-Knocklyon) that will transfer to the new Rathfarnham electoral area. The Committee considers that Tallaght South electoral area should include the electoral divisions that lie to the south of the N81 roadway that are currently part of Tallaght Central electoral area. The population of Tallaght South would therefore become 48,387. With a membership of five, the electoral area would have a variation of 1.89% from the county's average population per member.

A summary of the recommended electoral areas is set out below and a formal specification of those areas is contained in Appendix I. The boundaries of the electoral areas are also illustrated in Map B at the back of the report.

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the county average
South Dublin	246,935	26	9,498	
Clondalkin	53,173	6	8,862	-6.69
Lucan	47,237	5	9,447	-0.53
Rathfarnham	38,832	4	9,708	2.22
Tallaght Central	59,306	6	9,884	4.07
Tallaght South	48,387	5	9,677	1.89

South Dublin



Waterford City

Population and membership

The population of Waterford City increased from 42,540 in 1996 to 45,748 in 2006 (a gain of 3,208 or 7.5%). However, this rate of population change has not occurred evenly across the city. Exceptional growth (from 14,916 to 19,673 – an increase of 4,757 or 31.9%) was experienced in Waterford No. 2 electoral area. In contrast, the population declined in the other two electoral areas: in Waterford No. 1 by 6.24% and in Waterford No. 3 by 5.18%.

The present population and arrangement of electoral areas for Waterford City are as follows:

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the city average
Waterford City	45,748	15	3,050	
Waterford No. 1	10,486	4	2,622	-14.05
Waterford No. 2	19,673	5	3,935	29.01
Waterford No. 3	15,589	6	2,598	-14.81

All three electoral areas have variations outside of the + or –10% range.

Analysis

At present, Waterford No. 2 electoral area has a population closer to that of a six-member area, while Waterford No. 3 area has a population closer to that of a five-member area.

As the entire area of Waterford City lies within the Dáil constituency of Waterford, alignment between the electoral areas and Dáil constituency boundaries is assured.

Recommendations

The Committee's recommendation is to maintain the present three electoral area structure with a minimal change in boundaries and a change in membership in two of the areas.

In view of the decline in population in Waterford No. 3 electoral area, the Committee considers it appropriate that the membership of this area be reduced by one. The population of 15,589 and a membership of 5 would give it a variation from the average population per member for the city of 2.23%.

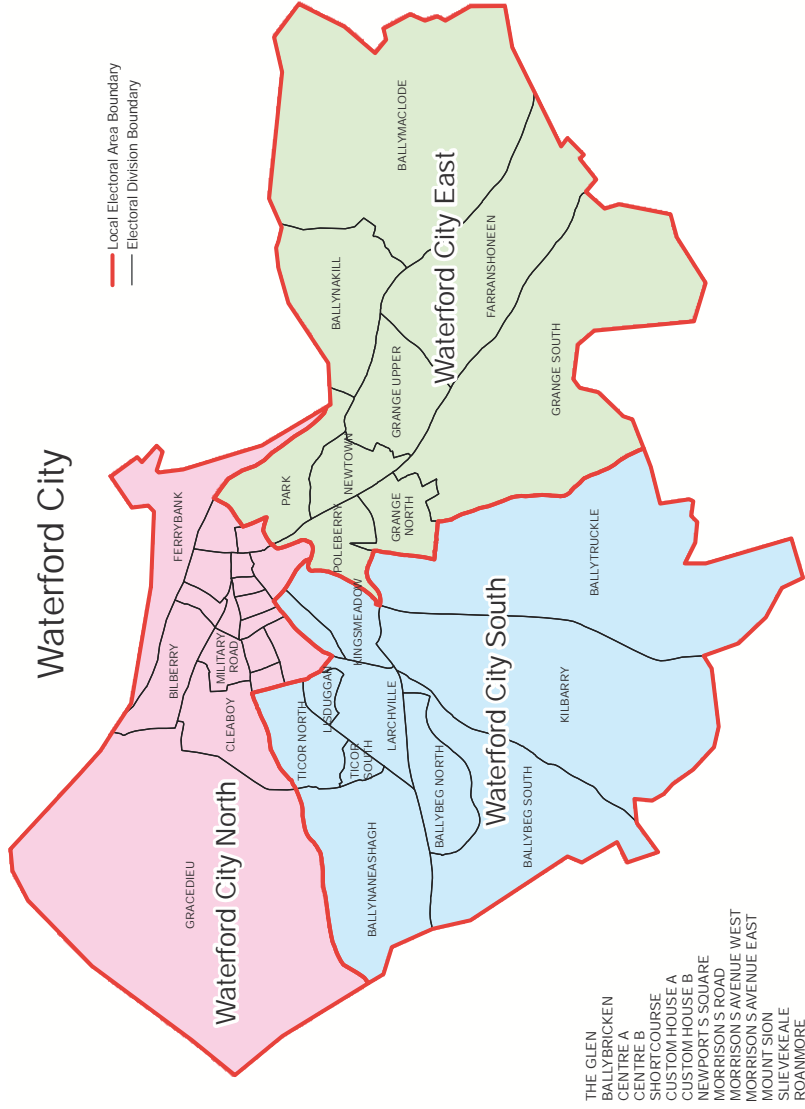
The Committee recommends that three electoral divisions (i.e. Centre A, Custom House A and Custom House B) be moved from Waterford No. 2 electoral area to Waterford No. 1 area. The resulting increased population of 11,823 in Waterford No. 1 area would, with its four members, give that area a variation from the city average population per member of -3.09%.

With the transfer from it of the three electoral divisions, Waterford No. 2 electoral area would have a reduced population of 18,336, which is sufficient to justify a membership of six. This would give the electoral area a variation from the average population per member of 0.20%.

The Committee also recommends that the local electoral areas should be renamed as Waterford City North (from Waterford No. 1 at present), Waterford City South (from Waterford No. 3) and Waterford City East (from Waterford No. 2).

A summary of the recommended electoral areas is set out below and a formal specification of those areas is contained in Appendix I.

	Population	Number of members	Population per member	% variation from the city average
Waterford City	45,748	15	3,050	
Waterford City East	18,336	6	3,056	0.20
Waterford City North	11,823	4	2,956	-3.09
Waterford City South	15,589	5	3,118	2.23



APPENDICES

Appendix I

Specification of recommended local electoral areas

Cork City

Local Electoral Area	Electoral Divisions	Number of members
Cork City North-Central	Blackpool A, Blackpool B, Commons, Fairhill A, Farranferries A, Farranferries C, Gurranebraher A, Gurranebraher B, Gurranebraher C, Gurranebraher D, Gurranebraher E, Shandon A, Shandon B, Sundays Well B, The Glen A and The Glen B.	Five
Cork City North-East	Mayfield, Montenotte A, Montenotte B, St. Patrick's A, St. Patrick's B, St. Patrick's C, Tivoli A and Tivoli B.	Four
Cork City North-West	Churchfield, Fair Hill B, Fair Hill C, Farranferries B, Knocknaheeny, Shanakiel and Sundays Well A.	Four
Cork City South-Central	Ballyphehane A, Ballyphehane B, Centre A, Centre B, City Hall A, Evergreen, Gillabbey A, Greenmount, Pouladuff A, Pouladuff B, South Gate A, South Gate B, The Lough, Togher B, Turners Cross A, Turners Cross B, Turners Cross C and Turners Cross D.	Five
Cork City South-East	Ballinlough A, Ballinlough B, Ballinlough C, Browningstown, City Hall B, Knockree A, Knockree B, Mahon A, Mahon B, Mahon C, Tramore A, Tramore B and Tramore C.	Seven
Cork City South-West	Bishopstown A, Bishopstown B, Bishopstown C, Bishopstown D, Bishopstown E, Gillabbey B, Gillabbey C, Glasheen A, Glasheen B, Glasheen C, Mardyke and Togher A.	Six

Dublin City

Local Electoral Area	Electoral Divisions	Number of members
Artane-Whitehall	Beaumont A, Beaumont B, Beaumont C, Kilmore A, Kilmore B, Kilmore C, Kilmore D, Priorswood A, Priorswood B, Priorswood C, Priorswood D, Priorswood E, Whitehall A, Whitehall B, Whitehall C and Whitehall D.	Five
Ballyfermot-Drumagh	Carna, Chapelizod, Cherry Orchard A, Cherry Orchard C, Crumlin A, Crumlin B, Crumlin E, Decies, Drumfing, Inchicore A, Inchicore B, Kilmainham A and Kilmore.	Four
Ballymun-Finglas	Ballygall A, Ballygall B, Ballygall C, Ballygall D, Ballymun A, Ballymun B, Ballymun C, Ballymun D, Ballymun E, Ballymun F, Finglas North A, Finglas North B, Finglas North C, Finglas South A, Finglas South B, Finglas South C and Finglas South D.	Five

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Specification of recommended local electoral areas (continued)

Local Electoral Area	Electoral Divisions	Number of members
Cabra-Glasnevin	Ashtown A, Ashtown B, Botanic A, Botanic B, Botanic C, Cabra East A, Cabra East B, Cabra East C, Cabra West A, Cabra West B, Cabra West C, Cabra West D, Drumcondra South C, and that part of the electoral division of Phoenix Park not contained in the local electoral area of South-West Inner City.	Five
Clontarf	Beaumont D, Beaumont E, Beaumont F, Clontarf East A, Clontarf East B, Clontarf East C, Clontarf East D, Clontarf East E, Clontarf West A, Clontarf West B, Clontarf West C, Clontarf West D, Clontarf West E, Drumcondra South A and Grace Park.	Five
Crumlin-Kimmage	Crumlin C, Crumlin D, Crumlin F, Kimmage A, Kimmage B, Kimmage C, Kimmage D, Kimmage E, Terenure A, Terenure B, Terenure C, Terenure D, Walkinstown A, Walkinstown B and Walkinstown C.	Four
Donaghmede	Ayrfield, Edenmore, Grange A, Grange B, Grange C, Grange D, Grange E, Harmonstown A, Harmonstown B, Raheny-Foxfield, Raheny-Greendale and Raheny-St. Assam.	Four
North Inner City	Arran Quay A, Arran Quay B, Arran Quay C, Arran Quay D, Arran Quay E, Ballybough A, Ballybough B, Drumcondra South B, Inns Quay A, Inns Quay B, Inns Quay C, Mountjoy A, Mountjoy B, North City, North Dock A, North Dock B, North Dock C, Rotunda A and Rotunda B.	Six
Pembroke-Rathmines	Pembroke East C, Pembroke East D, Pembroke East E, Pembroke West B, Pembroke West C, Rathfarnham, Rathmines East A, Rathmines East B, Rathmines East C, Rathmines East D, Rathmines West A, Rathmines West B, Rathmines West C, Rathmines West D, Rathmines West E and Rathmines West F.	Six
South-East Inner City	Mansion House A, Mansion House B, Pembroke East A, Pembroke East B, Pembroke West A, Royal Exchange A, Royal Exchange B, St Kevin's, South Dock, Wood Quay A and Wood Quay B.	Four
South-West Inner City	Kilmainham B, Kilmainham C, Merchants Quay A, Merchants Quay B, Merchants Quay C, Merchants Quay D, Merchants Quay E, Merchants Quay F, Ushers A, Ushers B, Ushers C, Ushers D, Ushers E, Ushers F, and that part of the electoral division of Phoenix Park situated between the northern boundaries of the electoral divisions of Kilmainham B and Ushers A and the southern boundary of the Phoenix Park.	Four

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Specification of recommended local electoral areas (continued)

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown

Local Electoral Area	Electoral Divisions	Number of members
Ballybrack	Ballybrack, Cabinteely-Granitefield, Cabinteely-Kilbogget, Dalkey-Avondale, Kiliney North, Killiney South, Shankill-Rathmichael, Shankill-Rathsallagh and Shankill-Shanganagh.	Five
Blackrock	<p>Blackrock-Boosterstown, Blackrock-Carysfort, Blackrock Central, Blackrock-Glenomena, Blackrock-Newpark, Blackrock-Seapoint, Blackrock-Templehill, Blackrock-Williamstown, Foxrock-Deansgrange, Stillorgan-Priory,</p> <p>that part of the electoral division of Blackrock-Monkstown situated west of Stradbroke Road,</p> <p>and that part of the electoral division of Blackrock-Stradbroke not contained in the local electoral area of Dún Laoghaire.</p>	Four
Dundrum	<p>Ballinteer-Broadford, Ballinteer-Ludford, Ballinteer-Meadowbroads, Ballinteer-Meadowmount, Churchtown-Castle, Churchtown-Landscape, Churchtown-Nutgrove, Churchtown-Orwell, Churchtown-Woodlawn, Clonskeagh-Farranboley, Clonskeagh-Milltown, Clonskeagh-Windy Arbour, Dundrum-Kilmacud, Dundrum-Sweetmount, Dundrum-Taney,</p> <p>that part of the electoral division of Ballinteer-Marley situated north of Grange Road,</p> <p>that part of the electoral division of Dundrum-Balally situated north of Blackthorn Drive,</p> <p>and that part of the electoral division of Dundrum-Sandyford situated north of a line drawn as follows:</p> <p>commencing at the junction, at the south-eastern corner of the electoral division of Ballinteer-Ludford, of the southern boundary of the electoral division of Ballinteer-Ludford and the western boundary of the electoral division of Dundrum-Sandyford, thence proceeding in an easterly direction along the southern boundary of the grounds of Gort Mhuire to the point where it meets Ballawley Park, thence commencing in an easterly direction and proceeding along the northern boundary of the said park to its junction with the eastern boundary of the electoral division of Dundrum-Sandyford.</p>	Five

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Specification of recommended local electoral areas (continued)

Local Electoral Area	Electoral Divisions	Number of members
Dún Laoghaire	<p>Cabinteely-Pottery, Dalkey-Bullock, Dalkey-Coliemore, Dalkey Hill, Dalkey Upper, Dún Laoghaire-East Central, Dún Laoghaire-Glasthule, Dún Laoghaire-Glenageary, Dún Laoghaire-Monkstown Farm, Dún Laoghaire-Mount Town, Dún Laoghaire-Sandycove, Dún Laoghaire-Sallynoggin East, Dún Laoghaire-Sallynoggin South, Dún Laoghaire-Sallynoggin West, Dún Laoghaire-Salthill, Dún Laoghaire-West Central, Foxrock-Beechpark,</p> <p>that part of the electoral division of Blackrock-Monkstown situated east of Stradbrook Road,</p> <p>and that part of the electoral division of Blackrock-Stradbrook situated east of Stradbrook Road.</p>	Six
Glencullen-Sandyford	<p>Ballinteer-Woodpark, Cabinteely-Loughlinstown, Glencullen, Tibbradden,</p> <p>that part of the electoral division of Ballinteer-Marley situated south of Grange Road,</p> <p>that part of the electoral division of Dundrum-Balally situated south of Blackthorn Drive,</p> <p>and that part of the electoral division of Dundrum-Sandyford not contained in the local electoral area of Dundrum.</p>	Four
Stillorgan	<p>Clonskeagh-Belfield, Clonskeagh-Roebeck, Foxrock-Carrickmines, Foxrock-Torquay, Stillorgan-Deerpark, Stillorgan-Kilmacud, Stillorgan-Leopardstown, Stillorgan-Merville and Stillorgan-Mount Merrion.</p>	Four

Fingal

Local Electoral Area	Electoral Divisions	Number of Members
Balbriggan	<p>Balbriggan Rural, Balbriggan Urban, Ballyboghil, Balscadden, Clonmethan, Garristown, Hollywood, Holmpatrick, Lusk, Rush and Skerries.</p>	Five
Castleknoch	<p>Blanchardstown-Abbotstown, Blanchardstown-Coolmine, Blanchardstown-Delwood, Blanchardstown-Roselawn, Castleknock-Knockmaroon and Castleknock-Park.</p>	Four

Continued on the next page

Specification of recommended local electoral areas (continued)

Local Electoral Area	Electoral Divisions	Number of Members
Howth–Malahide	<p>Baldoyle, Balgriffin, Howth, Kinsaley, Malahide East, Malahide West, Portmarnock North, Portmarnock South, Sutton,</p> <p>and that part of the electoral division of Swords–Seatown situated east of a line drawn as follows:</p> <p>commencing at the junction of the northern boundary of the electoral division of Swords–Seatown and the eastern boundary of the townland of Seatown East, thence proceeding in a southerly direction along the eastern boundary of the said townland to its junction with the northern boundary of the townland of Drinan, thence proceeding in a westerly direction along the northern boundary of the townland of Drinan to its junction with the eastern boundary of the townland of Mountgorry, thence proceeding in a southerly direction along the eastern boundary of the townland of Mountgorry to its junction with the Malahide Road, thence proceeding in a southerly direction along the laneway joining the said Malahide Road to the southern boundary of the electoral division of Swords–Seatown to the junction of the said laneway with the said southern boundary.</p>	Five
Mulhuddart	<p>Blanchardstown–Blakestown, Blanchardstown–Corduff, Blanchardstown–Mulhuddart, Blanchardstown–Tyrrelstown, Lucan North and The Ward.</p>	Five
Swords	<p>Airport, Donabate, Dubber, Kilsallaghan, Swords–Forrest, Swords–Glasmore, Swords–Lissenhall, Swords Village, Turnapin,</p> <p>and that part of the electoral division of Swords–Seatown not contained in the local electoral area of Howth–Malahide.</p>	Five

Galway City

Local Electoral Area	Electoral Divisions	Number of Members
Galway City Central	Dangan, Eyre Square, Newcastle, Nuns Island, Ragoon, Shantalla and Paróiste San Nicolás.	Four
Galway City East	Ballybaan, Baile an Bhriotaigh, An Caisleán Gearr, Lough Atalia, Mionlach, Mervue, Murroogh, Renmore and Welpark.	Six
Galway City West	Bearna, Claddagh, An Cnocán Carrach, Rockbarton, Salthill and Taylors Hill.	Five

Continued on the next page

Specification of recommended local electoral areas (continued)

Limerick City

Local Electoral Area	Electoral Divisions	Number of Members
Limerick City East	Abbey A, Abbey B, Abbey C, Abbey D, John's A, John's B, John's C and Singland A.	Four
Limerick City North	Ballynanty, Castle A, Castle B, Castle C, Castle D, Coolrairie, Farranshane, Killeely A, Killeely B and Limerick North Rural.	Six
Limerick City South	Ballinacurra A, Ballinacurra B, Custom House, Dock A, Dock B, Dock C, Dock D, Galvone A, Galvone B, Glentworth A, Glentworth B, Glentworth C, Market, Prospect A, Prospect B, Rathbane, Shannon A, Shannon B, Singland B and St. Laurence.	Seven

South Dublin

Local Electoral Area	Electoral Divisions	Number of Members
Clondalkin	<p>Clondalkin-Cappaghmore, Clondalkin-Dunawley, Clondalkin-Monastery, Clondalkin-Rowlagh, Clondalkin Village, Newcastle, Rathcoole, Saggart,</p> <p>that part of Clondalkin-Moorfield situated west of a line drawn along the M50 Western Parkway,</p> <p>and that part of Palmerston West situated within the following line:</p> <p>commencing at the junction of Coldcut Road and Fonthill Road (referred to hereafter as the first-mentioned point), then preceding in a northerly direction along Fonthill Road to the next roundabout, then preceding along the roadway in an easterly direction to the second-next roundabout, then preceding along the roadway first in a southerly direction and then in a south-easterly direction to the second-next roundabout, then preceding along the roadway in a southerly direction to its junction with Coldcut Road, then preceding in a westerly direction along that Road to its junction with Fonthill Road (i.e. the first-mentioned point).</p>	Six
Lucan	<p>Lucan-Esker, Lucan Heights, Lucan-St Helens, Palmerston Village</p> <p>that part of Clondalkin-Moorfield situated east of a line drawn along the M50 Western Parkway,</p> <p>and that part of Palmerston West not contained in the local electoral area of Clondalkin.</p>	Five

Continued on the next page

Specification of recommended local electoral areas (continued)

Local Electoral Area	Electoral Divisions	Number of Members
Rathfarnham	Ballyboden, Edmondstown, Firhouse-Ballycullen, Firhouse-Knocklyon, Rathfarnham-Ballyroan, Rathfarnham-Butterfield, Rathfarnham-Hermitage, Rathfarnham-St Endas and Rathfarnham Village.	Four
Tallaght Central	Clondalkin-Ballymount, Tallaght-Belgard, Tallaght-Glenview, Tallaght-Fettercairn, Tallaght-Kilnamanagh, Tallaght-Kingswood, Tallaght-Springfield, Tallaght-Tymon, Templeogue-Cypress, Templeogue-Kimmage Manor, Templeogue-Limekiln, Templeogue-Orwell, Templeogue-Osprey, Templeogue Village, Terenure-Cherryfield, Terenure-Greentrees and Terenure-St James.	Six
Tallaght South	Ballinascorney, Bohernabreena, Firhouse Village, Tallaght-Avonbeg, Tallaght-Jobstown, Tallaght-Killinarden, Tallaght-Kiltipper, Tallaght-Millbrook and Tallaght-Oldbawn.	Five

Waterford City

Local Electoral Area	Electoral Divisions	Number of Members
Waterford City East	Ballymaclode, Ballynakill, Farranstoneen, Grange North, Grange South, Grange Upper, Newtown, Park and Poleberry.	Six
Waterford City North	Ballybricken, Bilberry, Centre A, Centre B, Cleaboy, Custom House A, Custom House B, Ferrybank, Gracedieu, Military Road, Morrison's Avenue East, Morrison's Avenue West, Morrison's Road, Mount Sion, Newport's Square, Shortcourse, Slievekeale and The Glen.	Four
Waterford City South	Ballybeg North, Ballybeg South, Ballynaneashagh, Ballytruckle, Kilbarry, Kingsmeadow, Larchville, Lisduggan, Roanmore, Tícor North and Tícor South.	Five

Appendix II

Rules of Procedure of the Committee

1. These rules are hereby adopted by the Committee to assist the proper and effective performance of its functions.
2. The quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall be 3.
3. Subject to the requirement of a quorum, the Committee may act notwithstanding a vacancy in its membership.
4. If the Chairperson is not present at a meeting, the members of the Committee present shall choose one of their number to be Chairperson of that meeting.
5. Matters at committee meetings will in the normal course be agreed by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, and a question at a meeting requires to be decided by vote, the question shall be determined by a majority of the votes of the members present and voting on the question, each member present having one vote and in the case of an equal division of votes, the Chairperson of the meeting having a second or casting vote.
6. No person shall, without the consent of the Committee, disclose to any person any information obtained while serving as a member of the Committee or as a person whose services are made available to the Committee relative to the business of the Committee or the performance of the functions of the Committee.
7. No member of the Committee or its secretariat shall entertain any communication from any person external to the Committee and its secretariat which is for the purposes of influencing the Committee in the performance of its functions.
8. The deliberations of the Committee shall be conducted in private and persons other than members of the Committee and its secretariat shall not normally be permitted to attend a meeting of the Committee. In no case shall persons who are not members of the Committee be allowed to attend a meeting for the purposes of influencing the Committee in the performance of its functions.
9. A member of the Committee shall not participate in the preparation of any part of the report with respect to the functional area of a local authority if he or she is an officer of that authority, nor with respect to the functional area of a local authority situated within an administrative county if he or she is an officer of the council of that county. Any such matter arising shall be noted in the minutes of that meeting.
10. Meetings of the Committee shall be arranged and notified to members by the Secretary after consultation with the Chairperson.
11. The minutes of each meeting of the Committee shall be approved at the next meeting and shall thereupon be signed by the Chairperson and retained by the Secretary.

Appendix III

Copy of newspaper advertisement

Local Electoral Area Boundary Committees

The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Mr John Gormley, T.D., has established two committees to review local electoral areas and to report to him not later than 20 June 2008.

The reviews of local electoral areas are being undertaken in prospect of the local elections to be held in 2009, and having regard to population changes since the last similar reviews in 1998. The Committees' reports will be considered by the Minister as the basis for the revision of the local electoral areas under his statutory powers.

The Committees are mandated to review the ratio of population to elected members in each local electoral area and to ensure a reasonable relationship (as far as practicable within a variance of +/-10%) between the population as established by the 2006 census and representation within each local authority. In addition, in the case of counties and cities, the Committees must also seek to draw up, where possible, electoral areas that would, alone or in combination, have an urban or neighbourhood focal point or points.

The terms of reference for the Committees also require them to take due account of the desirability of preserving natural communities or the hinterlands of population centres, and, where possible, of aligning local electoral area boundaries with Dáil constituency boundaries.

The Committees are asked to assume no change in present numbers of elected members at overall local authority level. Within individual electoral areas as recommended by the Committees, the number of councillors should not be less than 4 or more than 7, provided that in very exceptional circumstances 3 seat local electoral areas may be recommended where otherwise the geographic size of the area would be disproportionately large.

The Dublin and Cities Electoral Area Boundary Committee will report and make recommendations in relation to Dublin City, Cork City, Galway City, Limerick City, Waterford City, and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal and South Dublin County Councils. The Electoral Area Boundary Committee will report and make recommendations in relation to the counties outside of Dublin City, and the borough councils of Drogheda and Sligo and the town councils of Bray and Dundalk, all of which are currently divided into local electoral areas.

The Committees now invite submissions on the matters referred to above. Submissions may be sent by e-mail to electoralareacommittees@environ.ie or by post to Room 2.03, Custom House Dublin 1, and should be addressed to –

Secretary
Dublin and Cities Electoral Area Boundary Committee

or

Secretary
Electoral Area Boundary Committee

as appropriate, to arrive no later than 14 March 2008. All submissions will be made available on the website of the Committees (www.electoralareacommittees.ie) as soon as they are received.

Further information, including full terms of reference, is available from John O'Farrell, telephone 01 888 2092.

Appendix IV

Persons and Organisations who made submissions to the Committee

Political Parties

Fianna Fáil, Dublin North West
Fianna Fáil, Dublin West Comhairle Dailcheantaire
Fine Gael
Fine Gael, Swords Branch
Green Party, Dublin City Region
Green Party, Dublin West
Green Party, The Fingal Greens
Labour
Labour, Jack Clarke Branch
Progressive Democrats, Dublin Mid West
Progressive Democrats, Dublin South East
Progressive Democrats, South Dublin
Sinn Féin
Sinn Féin, Limerick
Socialist Party

Public Representatives

Eamon Ryan, T.D., Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources
Pat Carey, T.D., Minister of State at the Department of An Taoiseach
Thomas P. Broughan, T.D.
Joan Burton, T.D.
Joe Costello, T.D.
Paul Gogarty, T.D.
Noel Grealish, T.D.
Olivia Mitchell, T.D.
Jan O' Sullivan, T.D.
Alan Shatter, T.D.
Senator Maurice Cummins
Councillor Darragh Butler, Fingal County Council
Councillor Maria Byrne, Limerick City Council
Councillor Peter Coyle, Fingal County Council
Councillor John Cronin, Limerick City Council
Councillor David Cullinane, Waterford City Council
Councillor Tom Cunningham, Waterford City Council
Councillor Declan Flanagan, Dublin City Council
Councillor Peggy Hamill, Fingal County Council
Councillor John Hannon, South Dublin County Council
Councillor John Halligan, Waterford City Council
Councillor Gerry Horkan, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
Councillor James Houlihan, Limerick City Council
Councillor Michael Hourigan, Limerick City Council
Councillor Kevin Humphreys, Dublin City Council
Councillor Joe Leddin, Limerick City Council

Continued on the next page

**Persons and Organisations who made submissions
to the Committee (continued)**

Councillor Donal Lyons, Galway City Council
Councillor Sean Paul Mahon, Dublin City Council
Councillor Eamonn Maloney, South Dublin County Council
Councillor Donal Marren, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
Councillor Paddy McCartan, Dublin City Council
Councillor Tony McDermott, South Dublin County Council
Councillor Declan McDonnell, Galway City Council
Councillor Gerry McLoughlin, Limerick City Council
Councillor Tom Murphy, Waterford City Council
Councillor Joe Neville, South Dublin County Council
Councillor Michael O' Donovan, Fingal County Council
Councillor Terry O' Flaherty, Galway City Council
Councillor Mary O' Halloran, Waterford City Council
Councillor Kieran O' Hanlon, Limerick City Council
Councillor Laurence "Cha" O' Neill, Waterford City Council
Councillor Mary Roche, Waterford City Council
Councillor Seamus Ryan, Waterford City Council
Councillor Jack Walsh, Waterford City Council
Councillor Kieran Walsh, Limerick City Council
Councillor Edie Wynne, Dublin City Council

Local Authorities

Cork City Council

Organisations

Association of County and City Councils
Balally Residents Association
Communities for Sustainable Development, Cork
Dublin 15 Community Council
Swords Community Council
Swords Electoral Area Boundary Group
Terenure Residents Association

Individuals

Catherine Ardagh
Christopher Barker
Francis J. Barker
Theresa Barker
Dermot Behan
Desmond Blair, Swords
Victor Boyhan, Dún Laoghaire
Pam Brown
Nikki Burke, Swords
Peter Clancy, Malahide
Robert Creighton
Steward Cullen
Brian Doyle, Belfield
Pauline Doyle, Terenure
Wes Duffy, Swords

Continued on the next page

**Persons and Organisations who made submissions
to the Committee (continued)**

David Hutchinson Edgar, Tallaght
Anne Feeney, Terenure
Mary Fitzpatrick
Breda Flannery, Limerick
Brenda Gardiner
James Grant
Brendan Heneghan, Terenure
Alan Higgins, Swords
Robert Irwin, Limerick
Frank Kavanagh, Limerick
Amanda Kelly, Swords
Tony Kelly, Dundrum
Edward Kiely
Linda Ledger
Denis Leonard
Victoria Lyons, Swords
Colm MacCarvill, Merion
Michael McKeever, Galway
Bill Mew
Dawn Murray, Swords
Andrea Neill, Malahide
Derek Neill, Malahide
Derek Nolan, Galway
Ken O' Brien, Malahide
Aisling O' Donoghue, Swords
Michael O' Loughlin, Swords
William O' Sullivan, Cork
Maria Parodi
Celine Power, Malahide
David Rooney, Swords
Tara Shorthall, Malahide
David Sinnott, Swords
Gerry Sinnott, Swords
Karen Sinnott, Swords
Laura Sinnott, Swords
David Smith, Malahide
Gerard Stockil, Tallaght
Daniel K. Sullivan, Limerick
Aideen Williams

Appendix V

Recent history of boundary reviews

In 1985, two non-statutory Commissions were established – one in respect of Dublin City and County and one for the other cities and counties. The task of the Commission reviewing Dublin was to advise and report on the formation of districts and local electoral areas.

The terms of reference for the Commission reviewing Dublin required it *inter alia* to -

- determine boundaries of six districts (Artane/Coolock/Raheny/Glasnevin/Drumcondra/Clontarf, Finglas/Cabra/Ashtown, the inner-city, Crumlin/Drimnagh/Inchicore/Ballyfermot, and Pembroke/Rathmines/Terenure), each to have populations as recorded in the 1981 Census in the range 75,000 to 100,000
- recommend a division of each of those districts into two electoral areas of not more than five seats, taking due account in such division of the affinity of different parts of these districts with each other and of the populations of these areas as recorded in 1981.

In relation to the then proposed three new county councils in Dublin, the Commission was required to recommend a division of each of the council areas into two districts. Each district was to be sub-divided into electoral areas based on the 1981 Census, having not more than five seats each. In determining the electoral areas, the Commission was required as far as possible to have regard to the preservation of natural communities or of areas forming the hinterland of particular population or shopping centres.

A further review of local electoral areas was carried out in 1998 by two Electoral Boundary Committees established under the Local Government Act 1991. One committee dealt with electoral areas in Dublin City as well as the counties of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal and South Dublin, while the other committee dealt with -

- (a) the cities of Cork, Galway, Limerick and Waterford
- (b) all counties
- (c) the towns of Clonmel, Drogheda, Kilkenny, Sligo, Wexford, Bray, Dundalk and Tralee.

That review, which had terms of reference quite similar to those of the present review, was based on the 1996 Census.

The Minister made the necessary orders to implement the recommendations of both 1998 Boundary Committees and two local elections (i.e. 1999 and 2004) have taken place since then.

The boundaries of the existing local electoral areas are shown in maps contained in Appendix VI.

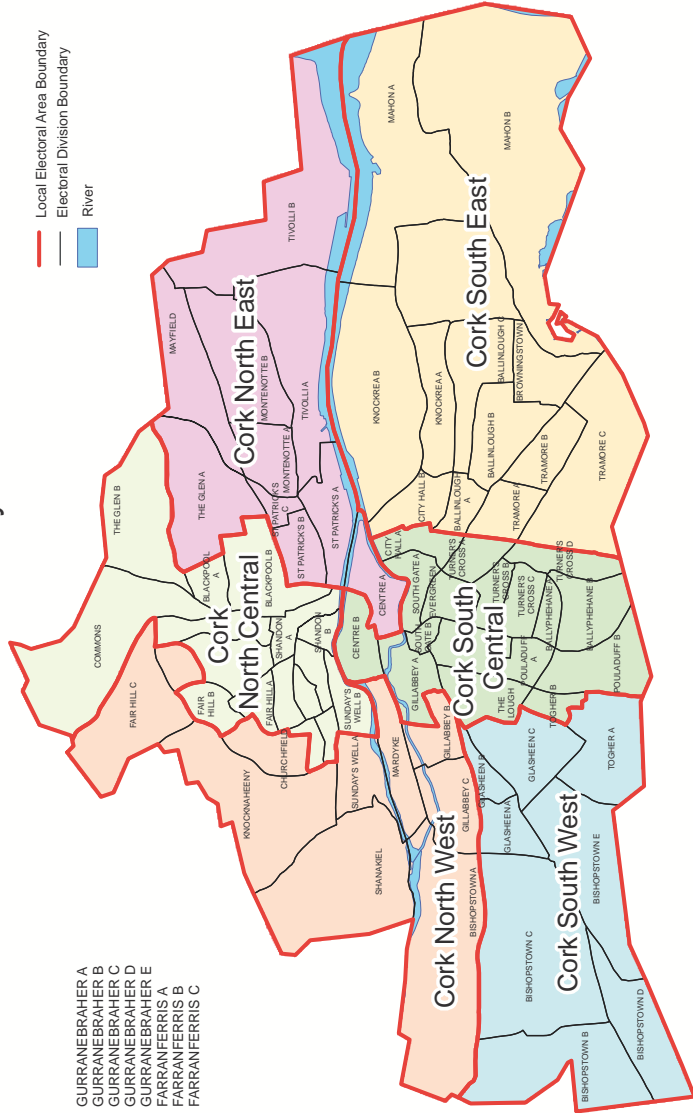
Appendix VI

Maps of existing local electoral areas

Cork City

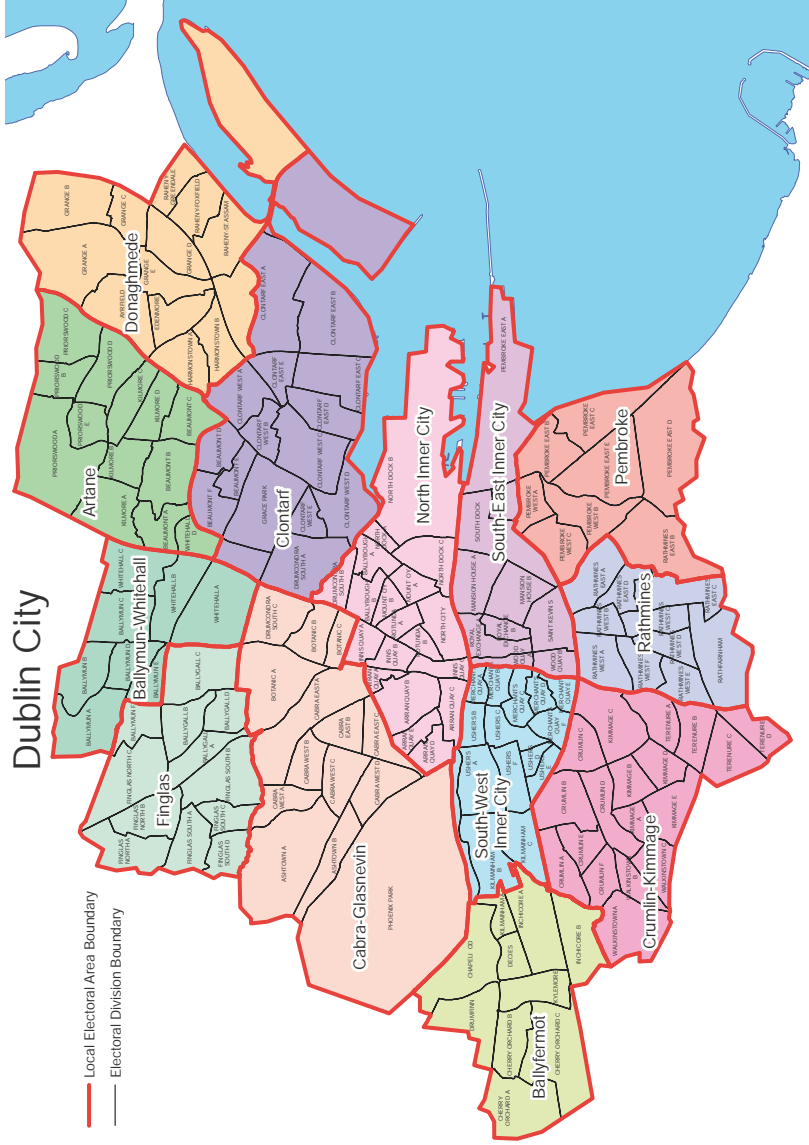
- Local Electoral Area Boundary
- Electoral Division Boundary
- River

GURRANBRAHER A
GURRANBRAHER B
GURRANBRAHER C
GURRANBRAHER D
GURRANBRAHER E
FARRANFERRIS A
FARRANFERRIS B
FARRANFERRIS C

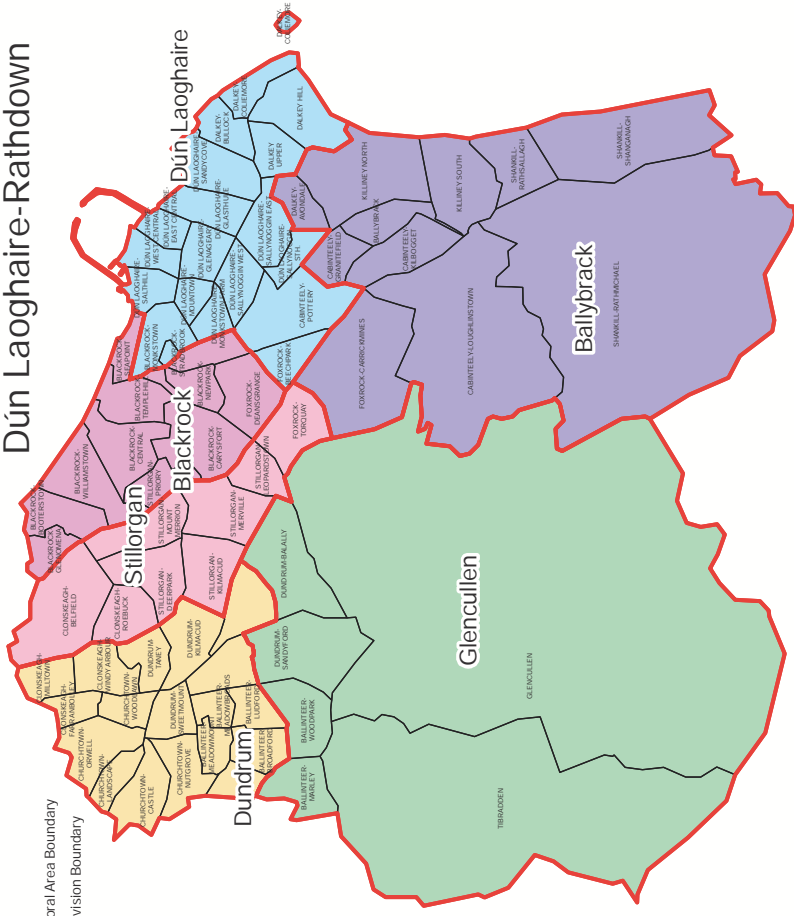


Dublin City

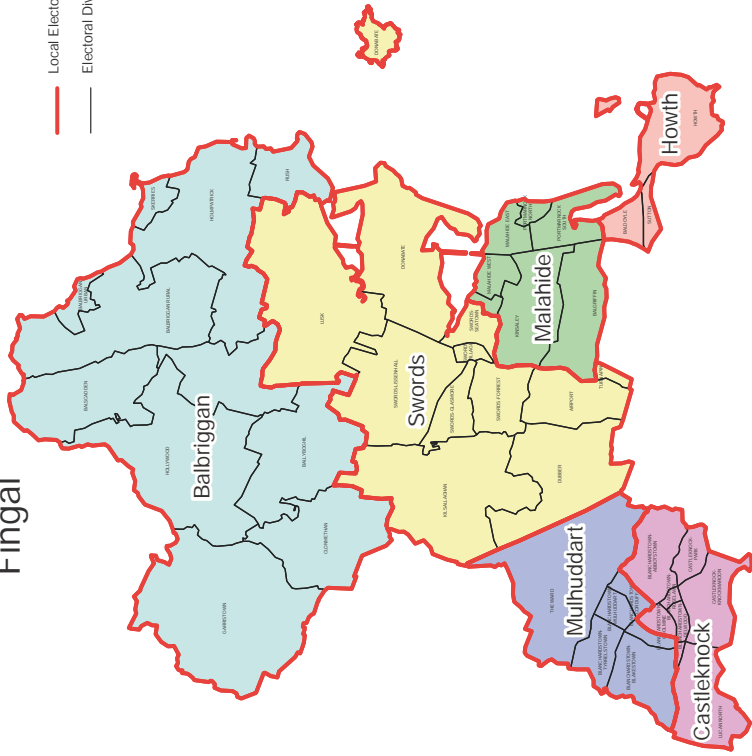
- Local Electoral Area Boundary
- Electoral Division Boundary



— Local Electoral Area Boundary
— Electoral Division Boundary

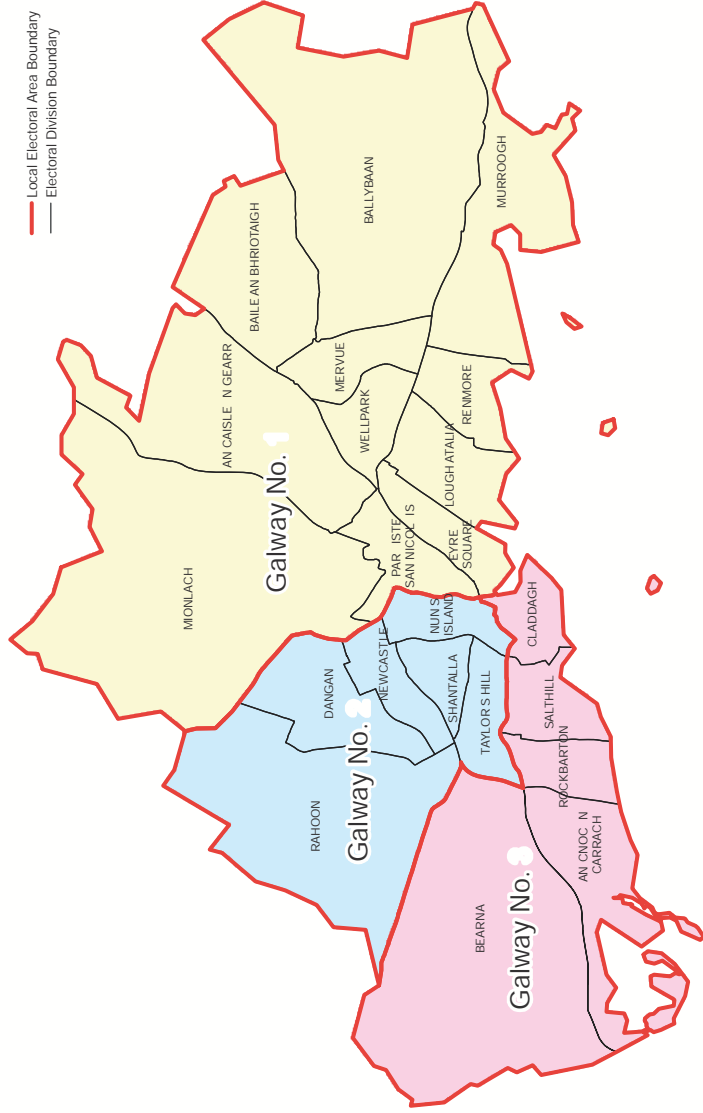


Fingal



Galway City

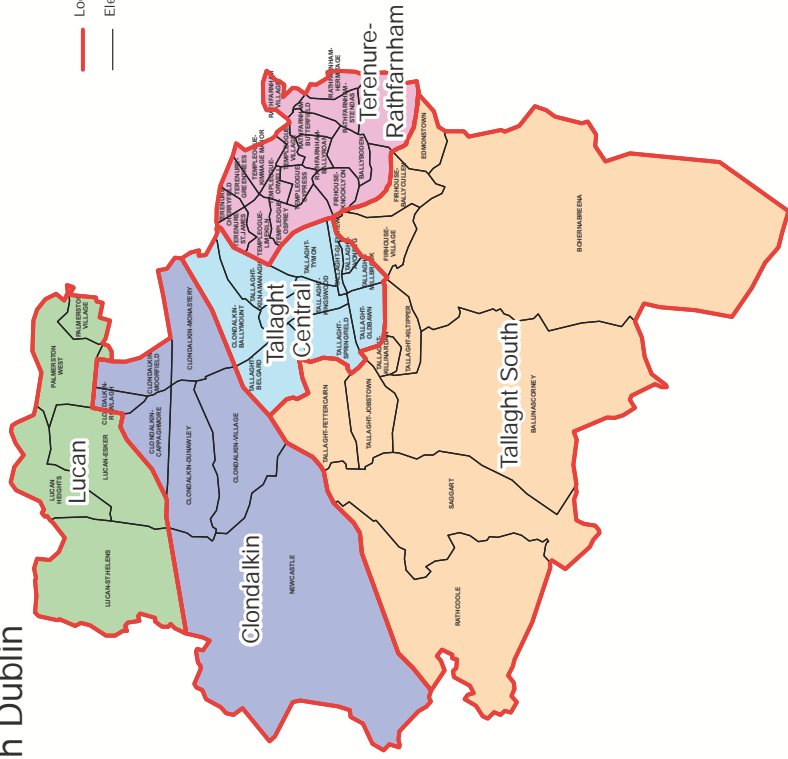
— Local Electoral Area Boundary
— Electoral Division Boundary



Limerick City

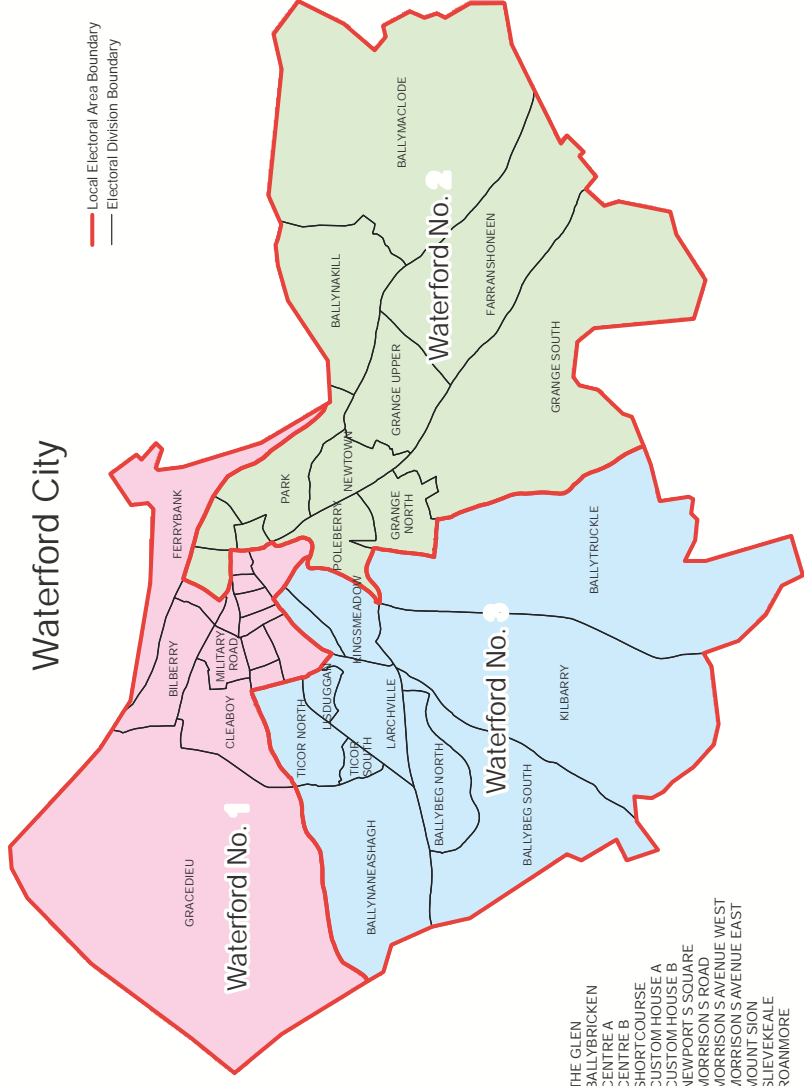


— Local Electoral Area Boundary
— Electoral Division Boundary



Waterford City

— Local Electoral Area Boundary
— Electoral Division Boundary



THE GLEN
BALLYBRICKEN
CENTRE A
CENTRE B
SHORTCOURSE
CUSTOM HOUSE A
CUSTOM HOUSE B
NEWPORT S SQUARE
MORRISON S ROAD
MORRISON SAVENUE WEST
MORRISON SAVENUE EAST
MOUNT SION
SLIEVEKALE
ROANMORE



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