

My Submission to the Boundary Commission
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Email: constituency.commission@housing.gov.ie

Subject line: Dublin Fingal and Swords

Swords, including the environs of Rolestown, Kilsallaghan and St. Margaret's (electoral divisions of Dubber and Kilsallaghan), is the capital town of Fingal and must remain united within the constituency of Dublin Fingal.

In 2007, a previous Boundary Commission made the crazy decision to divide Swords in two and a huge chunk of Swords (electoral division of Swords Forrest) was moved to the constituency of Dublin West. We voted in Dublin West for one General Election and two By-Elections. We were totally alienated from Dublin West in terms of the candidates running and by geography, with nothing but fields and motorways between Swords and Castleknock / Blanchardstown. These areas are in no way contiguous and this decision made absolutely no sense. This decision left thousands of voters disenfranchised and did nothing for democracy. As part of this, residents living on the Dublin West side of the road in Brackenstown Village and Park Avenue could not walk across the road to vote, instead they had to get into their cars and drive around the valley to Rivervalley to vote.

In 2012 we won our campaign to have Swords, the capital town of Fingal, re-united in the new constituency of Dublin Fingal. After an even longer period of separation, Rolestown, Kilsallaghan and St. Margaret's (electoral divisions of Dubber and Kilsallaghan) were also rightfully returned to their natural home which is along with Swords in the constituency of Dublin Fingal.

My submission is quite simple, please, no crazy decisions like the previous deeply unpopular, undemocratic decision made to divide Swords in 2007; that we had to fight long and hard to reverse in 2012. Under no circumstance can the dividing up of the capital town of Fingal be acceptable. Swords, including the environs of Rolestown, Kilsallaghan and St. Margaret's (electoral divisions of Dubber, Kilsallaghan, and Swords Forrest), must remain united within the constituency of Dublin Fingal. Swords belongs in north County Dublin, not west Dublin.

Thank you.

Eamonn Flanagan