

Commission Secretary,
Constituency Commission,
Room 1.65,
Custom House,
Dublin 1

Dear Secretary,

Please find attached my submission to the Constituency Commission regarding Dublin North County and Dublin north city constituencies.

I would be most grateful if you would give due consideration to this submission.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavan Cooper', written over a horizontal line.

GAVAN COOPER

CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY PROPOSAL for DUBLIN NORTH COUNTY & DUBLIN NORTH CITY

OVERALL SCOPE:

I wish to present a Boundary Submission proposal to the Constituency Boundary Commission in accordance with the Preliminary Census Figures 2016.

OVERALL SUMMARY:

I propose no change to the current Dublin West Constituency Boundary.

I propose no change to the current Dublin Fingal Constituency Boundary.

I propose boundary changes to the Dublin north city constituencies within their current geographical area and an increase of one seat.

OVERALL BACKGROUND:

Preliminary Census Figures 2016 state a national population of 4,757,976 which equates to 30,114 population per TD. This is in excess of the maximum 30,000 as per the Constitution.

The Boundary Commission Terms of Reference outline the maximum number of TD's shall be 160. We propose to increase the number of TD's from the current number of 158 to 159. The population per TD would be adjusted accordingly to 29,924, therefore meeting constitutional requirements.

OVERALL APPROACH:

DUBLIN WEST

Taking into account the 2016 Census Figures and the number of Dail Seats set at 159, Dublin Fingal and Dublin West have a variance of 0.8% and 1.17% respectively. There is no compelling case to alter the existing boundaries in either constituency. It was noted that the Electoral Divisions of Dubber, Kilsallaghan and Swords Forest were transferred back to Dublin Fingal as part of the 2012 Boundary Review. This concurred with a significant number of submissions received from North County Dublin and Swords residents advocating this transfer at the time.

Fingal County was also examined with a view to creating 2no. 5 Seat constituencies. However this would involve the transfer of significant parts of Swords and rural north Co. Dublin into the existing Dublin West constituency and it was decided, taking account of continuity and geographical considerations, not to propose this option on this occasion.

The transfer of Ashtown A, Ashtown B and Phoenix Park (total pop. 14,700) from Dublin West back into Dublin Central was considered. To offset this, the Electoral Divisions of Dubber, Kilsallaghan and Swords Forest would require transferring back into Dublin West. However, this transfer would go against all of the submitted proposals from Dublin North County and Swords. It was also noted that more significant boundary changes would be required in the neighbouring Dublin North West and Dublin City North constituencies in order to achieve the recommended 5% population variance in these constituencies.

Dublin North City Area.

Dublin north city (Dublin Central, Dublin North West and Dublin Bay North) 2016 population is 345,775 and equivalent to 11.48 seats. Both Dublin North West (+7.3%) and Dublin Central (+6.3%) are outside the recommended seat variance of 5%, therefore adjustments are required. I recommend the allocation of an additional seat to the area and felt that a satisfactory realignment of the 3 constituencies can be devised based on the existing Dublin City North boundaries. Therefore 3 no. 4 seat constituencies are recommended as outlined in Appendix A & B, within the 5% seat variance.

Overall Summary of proposed Dublin West, Dublin Fingal and Dublin north city Constituencies:

Constituency	Current Population	Current no. of Seats	Proposed Population	Proposed No. of Seats	Proposed Change
Dublin Fingal	151,760	5	151,760	5	No change
Dublin West	122,508	4	122,508	4	No change
Dublin Central	96,048	3	115,166	4	Increase to 4 seats
Dublin North West	96,897	3	115,968	4	Increase to 4 seats
Dublin Bay North	152,830	5	114,911	4	Reduce to 4 seats
TOTAL	620,043	20	620,043	21	

APPENDICES:

- The Electoral Divisions proposed for transfer between Dail Constituencies are outlined in Appendix A.
- The proposed boundary changes are mapped in Appendix B.

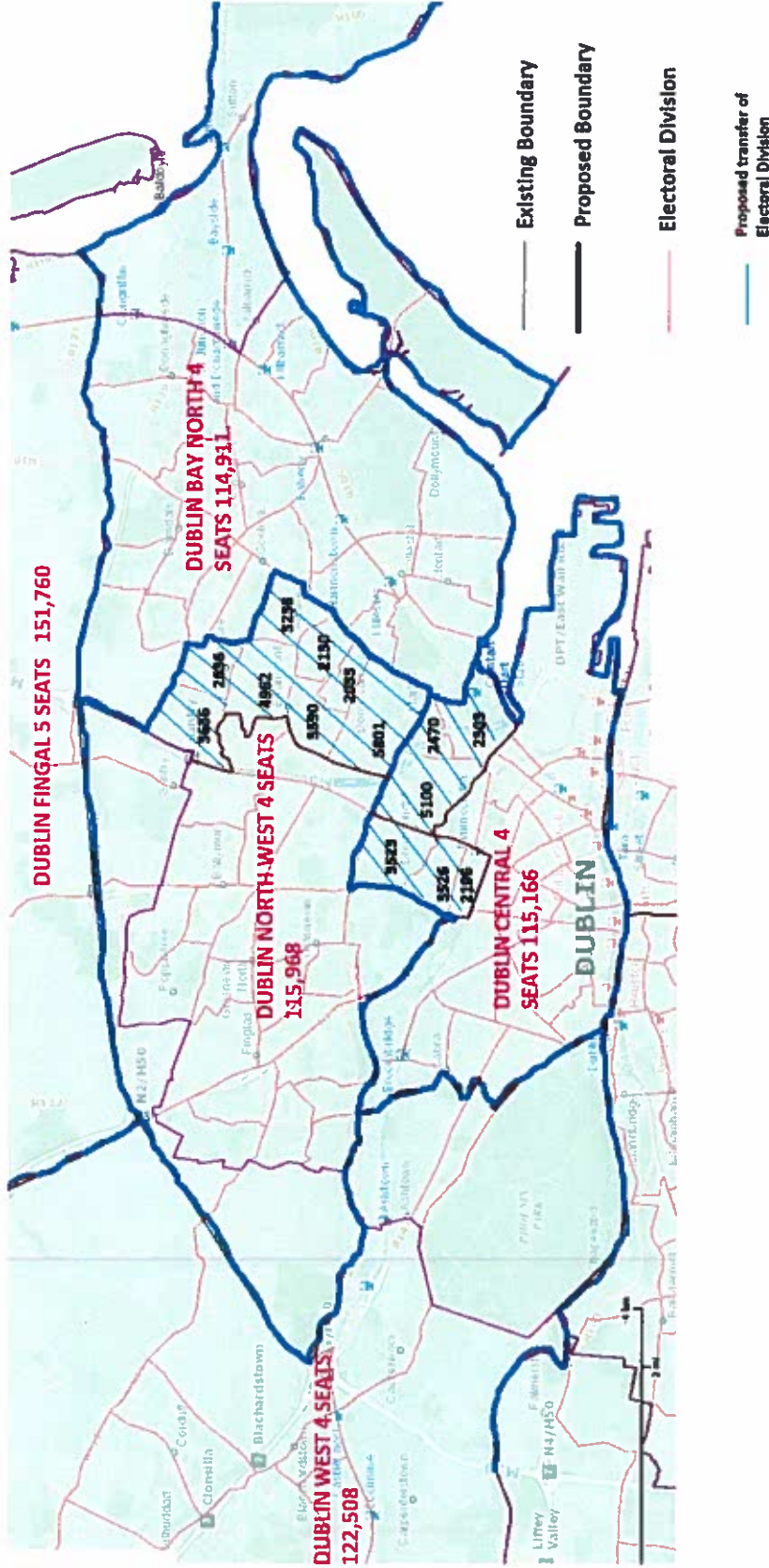
APPENDIX A – ELECTORAL DIVISIONS PROPOSED FOR TRANSFER BETWEEN DAIL CONSTITUENCIES:

ELECTORAL DIVISION	2016 POPULATION
A: Transfer in Dublin North West to Dublin Central	
Drumcondra South C	3,523
Botanic B	3,526
Botanic C	2,196
TOTAL	9,245

B: Transfer in Dublin Bay North to Dublin Central	
Clontarf West D	2,303
Clontarf West E	2,470
Drumcondra South A	5,100
TOTAL	9,873

C: Transfer in Dublin Bay North to Dublin North West	
Grace Park	5,801
Beaumont F	3,590
Beaumont E	2,033
Beaumont B	4,962
Beaumont C	3,238
Beaumont D	2,130
Kilmore A	3,656
Kilmore B	2,636
TOTAL	28,046

APPENDIX B - DUBLIN WEST AND DUBLIN NORTH CITY PROPOSAL



PROPOSED CONSTITUENCIES:

CONSTITUENCY	2016 POPULATION	CURRENT No. of TD's	% VARIANCE	PROPOSED POPULATION	PROPOSED No. of TD's	PROPOSED % VARIANCE
DUBLIN WEST	122,508	4	+1.17%	122,508	4	+2.3%
DUBLIN FINGAL	151,760	5	+0.8%	151,760	5	+1.3%
DUBLIN CENTRAL	96,048	3	+6.3%	115,166	4	-3.8%
DUBLIN BAY NORTH	152,830	5	+1.5%	114,911	4	-4%
DUBLIN NORTH WEST	96,897	3	+7.3%	115,968	4	-3.2%