

Sub 16/266

Mungret
County Limerick

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find my submission on boundary changes for the Limerick County constituency below.

I understand that Limerick City and Limerick County constituencies are over-represented relative to the national average. However, a further breach of county boundaries would do a disservice to both the people of Limerick and the areas that would be incorporated into the constituency. We want Limerick based representatives and do not want our elections skewed by outside factors not relevant to the county. The current law limiting Dáil Éireann to 160 members is not fit for purpose and the number should really be set at a higher level. This would allow for the integrity of county boundaries to be maintained in future elections.

My proposal is straightforward. It allows for the rebalancing of the current representation between the City and County. According to the preliminary results of Census 2016, a transfer of circa 2500 people is required to equalise the imbalance. This would bring both City and County constituencies to roughly -4% from the national average, assuming 159 seats in the Dáil.

In my view, the areas that can best benefit from this rebalancing are rural townlands that have similar needs. In particular, parts of the Electoral Division of Ballycummin (like Mungret and its hinterland) have more in common with County Limerick than with the City. Due to the unwieldy geographic size of the Electoral Division, I propose that a number of townlands rather than the whole unit be transferred from Limerick City constituency to Limerick County constituency.

I attach maps and a list of the townlands in question. The CSO has not published the breakdown of the townland population from Census 2016. I have based these calculations on Census 2011, assuming that the population increases in the Ballycummin ED was uniform increase across the townlands in question.

I look forward to seeing your final recommendations and hope that this will be part of them.

Is mise le meas,

Michael Cotten

Townland	2011	2016 est
Ballynoe	45	48
Caherandrish	49	52
Camheen	84	89
Islandduane	57	60
Loughanleagh	88	93
Lurraga	31	33
Ballyduane	75	79
Ballymacashel	42	44
Conigar	27	29
Ballycummin	1258	1330
Dromdarrig	97	103
Loughmore Common	0	0
Rathmale	172	182
Moneteen	23	24
Baunacloka	434	459
	2482	2623



