

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to make a submission to the Commission calling for the under representation of Dublin Central to be corrected by returning Ashtown A&B and the Phoenix Park to Dublin Central and by increasing it to a four seat constituency. It is understood that returning both Ashtown A&B and the Phoenix Park as well as Botanic B&C to the constituency, the constituency would be within the defined limits for a 4 seat constituency.

When Ashtown A&B and the Phoenix Park were moved to Dublin West, the area ended-up with diminished representation because it is now on the edge of Dublin West which, as a more residential outer suburban area, has different needs and interests.

Ashtown A&B was always part of Dublin Central and the community has strong links with the inner city, Cabra, Phibsborough and Stoneybatter.

Ashtown A&B is part of Dublin 7 and served by Dublin City Council, Cabra Garda Station, health, education and social services yet is currently in Dublin West.

Sports organisations in Ashtown A&B have strong links with the inner city and most children from Ashtown A&B attend secondary school in Dublin Central i.e. St Declan's College, St Dominic's and Colaiste Mhuire.

Much of the activity of Navan Road constituents is very much linked to the Dublin Central constituency of which they formed apart for many decades.

The redrawn boundaries also meant that the socio-economic balance of the constituency was upset. There is a concentration of lower socio-economic groups in Dublin Central where the majority of CSO respondents indicated that they were in non-professional groups, mainly D, E, F and G. A proper socio-economic balance needs to be restored.

The changes have also disrupted the socio-economic profile in surrounding constituencies. The removal of areas with higher socio-economic groupings from Dublin Central led to them being added into other constituencies such as Dublin West, which already has a large group who identify

themselves as being in the higher socio-economic groups. This will have shifted the balance in that constituency.

On foot of these reasons, I would respectfully suggest and request that you return Ashtown A&B and Phoenix Park, as well as Botanic B and C to Dublin Central.

Kind regards,

Rachel O'Sullivan