



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

Sub 16/344

Arising from your request for submissions regarding the change in population since the 2016 census and the impact on Dáil constituencies, I ask the Commission to consider the following points.

Points to consider

- Dublin North West is now the constituency most outside the 5% variance.
- There will be future development north of Ballymun and West of Finglas which will see further population growth in Dublin North West.
- The North and West of the constituency has a logical boundary in the form of the M50.
- The Beaumont area to the east of the constituency has several communities which have been subject to previous changes and which find themselves divided.
- The Drumcondra area is similarly divided by Dáil and local electoral boundaries.
- Since the inclusion of the Botanic area into Dublin North West at the 2016 election, several residents groups have reported their dissatisfaction at being separated from the Dublin Central Area.
- Traditionally the North City area has been made up of constituencies of broadly equal size.
- Some Dublin Bay North elected representatives have called for the creation of constituencies smaller than the current 5 seater.

I therefore make the following conclusions and recommend them to the Commission.

Conclusions

- The creation of three four seat constituencies across the North city area of broadly equal size would be a logical way to address the current variances.
- The Commission should start in the North West corner and work east and south to create three constituencies of approximately 115,000 people.
- There should be no attempt to bring the area north of the Tolka in the Finglas/Cabra Ward into Dublin Central or West as it is naturally part of the Finglas community. It is naturally separated by the M50 and the rail line/Tolka River industrial zone. The creation of this division at a local authority level has not been successful.
- The Drumcondra area should be brought together into one Dáil constituency.

I would like to thank the members of the Commission and their staff for considering this matter and I look forward to your recommendations.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Paul McAuliffe