



On behalf of Fine Gael Kildare South Constituency

Submission to the Constituency Commission in respect of Kildare

Dear Sirs

We make this submission on foot of the public notice of the Constituency Commission which is to report in relation to constituencies for the purposes of election of members to the Dail. Our submission relates specifically to the constituency of Kildare South.

As part of the previous Boundary Commission review, 6 electoral divisions (ED's) from County Kildare and the Kildare South constituency in particular, were moved to the Laois constituency. This move has seriously impacted and disenfranchised the residents of the areas of Monasterevin, Kildangan, Kilberry, Churchtown, Ballybracken and Harristown.

Residents of these 6 ED's are Kildare people who were not, in the last general election able to vote for Kildare based candidates.

Irish people by their nature and culture have a strong affinity to their County base forging strong sporting and parish links. To be moved outside of the Kildare area for voting purposes while many of their neighbours remained on the Kildare side seemed difficult to comprehend for many affected residents.

We would urge you in this current review to reinstate the County Boundary of Kildare and return the 6 EDs previously moved to Laois back to the Kildare South constituency.

This move would comply with one of the main legislative and statutory requirements of your review which states that the "breaching of County boundaries should be avoided as far as practicable".

Yours sincerely

Peter Judge

Chairman

10thth January 2017

Michael Rowan

Secretary