

A Chara,

I am making the following submission on behalf of the Ardcroney Community Development Committee of which I am the current Secretary.

The Ardcroney area is part of the portion of County Tipperary that was realigned with County Offaly in the last review of Dail Constituencies to make a new Offaly/Tipperary unit. This was and still is a source of major dissatisfaction in our area as it is throughout the areas affected.

It is quite ironic that, at the very time the County of Tipperary was being unified by the merger of North and South Tipperary County Councils, We in the most northerly part of that new county were being cut off through the change in the new Dail Constituency. We wish to protest in the strongest possible manner at this move which has without doubt left almost 11.000 residents in Tipperary feeling disenfranchised and utterly dissatisfied.

We are aware of the constitutional constraints regarding representational ratios and are aware that our return to voting in our own County would have the effect of putting us above the required threshold but we feel we would be far better represented by TD's elected to represent the County of Tipperary than we do under the present arrangement. We also have a difficulty in accepting that while we form part of the Nenagh Municipal District for Local Government services and the Constituency of Munster for European election purposes we are separated from both in terms of Dail representation.

We would ask that steps be taken to return the 11000 Tipperary residents unilaterally moved out of their natural homeland immediately.

Yours faithfully,

Paddy Heffernan

Secretary Ardcroney Community Development Committee