

Cavan County Executive Fine Gael

Fine Gael Office,
Rossa Place,
Coleman Road,
Cavan,
Co. Cavan.

12th March 2008.

Mr. Martin Vaughan,
Secretary,
Electoral Areas Boundary Committee,
Room 2.03,
Dept of The Environment, Heritage & Local Government,
Customs House,
Dublin 1.

Sent via e-mail to <electoralareacommittees@environ.ie>

Re: Electoral Areas –Submission; County Cavan

Dear Mr. Vaughan,

A meeting of Officers of the above Executive, including a representative number of Fine Gael elected Councillors, gave long and detailed consideration to the present subdivision of County Cavan and to the possible changes that might be considered to keep in line, as far as is practicable with the Terms of Reference laid down by the Minister.

In the context of County Cavan we believe that the importance, or the impact, of the relevant paragraphs in the Terms of Reference should be ranked in the order (3), (2), (5), (4) and (1); with T/R (3) having greater potential to impact on the mix of Rural / Urban environments in County Cavan, and consequently on the standard of representation afforded to the population.

In view of the above we hereby make the following submission for your consideration. We ask you to bear the foregoing in mind during your deliberations and wish you every success in this onerous task.

Contd./.....

Chairperson: Brian Maguire, Kilnacreeva, Stradone, Co. Cavan.
Organiser: John O'Hare, Knockbride, Bailieborough, Co. Cavan.
PRO: Michael Smith, Corick, Cootehill, Co. Cavan

Phone No. 049 433 0135
Phone No. 042 966 0170
Phone No. 049 555 3039

Cavan County Executive Fine Gael

Submission

Currently County Cavan is divided into four Electoral Areas, namely, Bailieborough, Ballyjamesduff, Belturbet and Cavan. In total twenty-five Council seats are allocated over the four areas in the order 7, 6, 5 and 7 respectively. From the 2006 census of population shows that the average population per Council seat is as follows: -

Electoral Area	Bailieborough	Ballyjamesduff	Belturbet	Cavan
Average Pop. / Seat	2,443	2,796	2,236	2,706

It is our contention that the current layout of District Boundaries and the allocation of Council seats fully satisfies Paragraphs 3, 2, 5 and 4 in the Terms of Reference. It also satisfies Paragraph 1 in the case of Bailieborough, Ballyjamesduff and Cavan. Belturbet area is marginally outside of the requirements of Paragraph 1 with the average population per seat being more than 10% below the overall average. However, when consideration is given to the geography of Belturbet electoral area we believe that this lower average is justified and should not be changed.

We therefore submit that there should be no changes made to the existing boundaries or seat allocation within County Cavan and that the existing layout should be maintained.

Yours sincerely,

Patsy O'Callaghan

Patsy O'Callaghan

Secretary

e-mail: pat.ocallaghan@iol.ie

Brian Maguire

Brian Maguire,

Chairperson

Chairperson: Brian Maguire, Kilnacreeva, Stradone, Co. Cavan.

Organiser: John O'Hare, Knockbride, Bailieborough, Co. Cavan.

PRO: Michael Smith, Corick, Cootehill, Co. Cavan

Phone No. 049 433 0135

Phone No. 042 966 0170

Phone No. 049 555 3039