

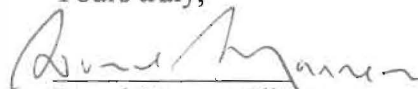
17 Rock Lodge, Killiney, Co. Dublin

12 March 2008

Re: Electoral Boundaries, Dún Laoghaire Rathdown

1. The N 11 is a busy dual carriageway. **The N11 dual carriageway should serve as a boundary between the electoral areas from Dublin city on the north as far as Cherrywood on the south.** Between Cherrywood and the Wicklow border there are 3 overpasses and as a consequence the barrier presented by the N11 has not the same significance south of Cherrywood.
2. The total number of elected members for the county is 28. There are two Area Committees viz. Dundrum and Dún Laoghaire. One of the committees (Dundrum) has 12 members made up of Glencullen (3) Stillorgan (3) Dundrum (6), and the other has 16 members made up of Ballybrack (6) Blackrock (4) Dún Laoghaire (6) . This numerical imbalance has created problems for the proper administration of committee meetings. The agenda for Dún Laoghaire is frequently overloaded and on the other hand the business in Dundrum is completed on many occasions well within the apportioned time. **Care should be taken to create two area committees of 14 members each.**
3. The County Development Plan recognises and supports the concept of two major towns in the county viz Dundrum and Dún Laoghaire. **In order to clearly establish these urban focal points both Dundrum and Dún Laoghaire should be at the centre of electoral areas returning six members for each area.**
4. The lack of both a quality local newspaper and a radio devoted to local matters makes communicating with the electorate an almost impossible task for the local elected representative in a county such as Dún Laoghaire Rathdown. For the more effective working of participative democracy **electoral areas should have fewer than six seats apart from Dundrum and Dún Laoghaire** for the reasons set out in paragraph three.

Yours truly,



Donal Marren Cllr.

