

jjoyce

From: jjoyce [jjoyce@cllr.galwaycoco.ie]
Sent: 18 February 2008 09:37
To: 'electoralareacommittees@eircom.ie'
Subject: Submission

Submission to Electoral Area Boundary Committee

I represent the Ballinasloe County Council Electoral Area on Galway Co. Council. It is a large rural area with Ballinasloe as its Urban Focal Point. However, Ballinasloe is immediately bounded on the east by Co. Roscommon and this causes the Ballinasloe area to extend to the west, south and north only.

We have five Co. Councillors representing the area and it is important that that number is not reduced because of the large area they have to represent, from Banagher in the east to Monivea in the west is approximately 30 miles.

Unlike the other Council electoral areas in County Galway the Ballinasloe area has not experienced the dramatic population growth of recent years and some adjustments may have to be made to boundaries.

Under section 3 of your Terms of Reference you are required to take account of natural communities. If you have to make small adjustments to increase the population of the Ballinasloe area I would suggest the following:

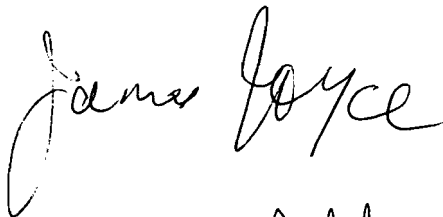
There are three natural communities which we call parishes which are divided between the Ballinasloe and Loughrea areas. They are Fahy-Quansboro (Raheen) Parish with Fahy in Ballinasloe and Quansboro in Loughrea – all this area should be in the Ballinasloe Electoral Area as it is in the natural hinterland of Ballinasloe.

Secondly Killoran and Mullagh are the one parish and again both sections of this parish naturally belong to Ballinasloe.

Thirdly Kilrickle and Cappataggle are the one Parish and in the last Boundary change Kilrickle was changed to Loughrea and this is reasonable as the village of Kilrickle is very much in the hinterland of Loughrea while Cappataggle is more naturally aligned with Ballinasloe. However it may be suitable to reverse the change which was made in the last review.

Yours sincerely

James Joyce, Co. Councillor.



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18/02/2008