

From: "Councillor Mary Roche" <cilrmroche@waterfordcity.ie>
To: <electoralareacommittees@environ.ie>
Date: 11/03/2008 10:58
Subject: Submission re Waterford City

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to make a submission concerning Waterford City and the changes in population of the traditional 3 wards.

The population has changed significantly in the intervening period with a significant increase in Ward 2 of 4,757 (31%) in population.

The current population and number of seats per ward is as follows:

Ward 1 has 10,486 population - 4 seats
Ward 2 has 19,673 population - 5 seats
Ward 3 has 15,589 population - 6 seats

From the figures it is obvious that a rebalancing is required between Wards 2 and 3. I respectfully suggest that Ward 2 requires an extra seat while the numbers in Ward 3 suggest it should lose a seat.

The cleanest and most obvious solution is to leave the ward boundaries as they are, and where they do not break up obvious neighbourhoods and to simply change the numbers. There has been some suggestion of moving the ward boundary to encompass part of ward 2 into ward 3 but this would be most unsatisfactory.

Firstly There is no obvious boundary move which would accommodate that. Secondly, any move would mean encompassing the last large scale local authority housing estate which is not already in ward 3, skewing the demographics wildly in that ward and meaning that every large scale LA housing estate in the city would then be in the one ward. It would also be a very unpopular move here in the city.

Yours sincerely,
Mary Roche
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